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24 October 1985

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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ANGOLA

U.S. ROLE AS GUIDE OF IMPERIALIST OFFENSIVE VIEWED

MB091655 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 9 Oct 85

[ANGOP editorial "Reason Is On Our Side"]

[Text] As the national and international public already knows, the Pretoria regime has chosen to heighten tension in Southern Africa in recent days, thus fulfilling the present general imperialist strategy, a strategy that also extends to Latin America, the Middle East, and Asia.

As is always the case, Western observers have not provided us with the reasons behind the present South African aggression against the People's Republic of Angola, the Israeli terrorist raid on the PLO installations in Tunisia, or the camouflaged replacement of Pol Pot from the command of armed bandits appointed by imperialism to make Kampuchea its battlefield, because in so doing they would be recognizing the rights of the so-called Third World's peoples to self-determination. This is contrary to the designs nourished by the bourgeoisie reigning in their countries. Hence, it is not surprising that most Western information organs have deliberately ignored the true objectives of the sponsors of the widely publicized world congress of anticommunist gangs, which was held precisely on U.S. territory, where the government is by far the greatest promoter of state terrorism. In the capitalist press, the reports and commentaries on the issue were so cleverly written that they did not arouse the suspicion of complicity.

Even at this period, however, much was being said about the repeal of Clark Amendment, which limited the ability to supply the world counterrevolution with equipment for their bandit actions inside sovereign and internationally recognized countries. We are not naive and for this reason we are able to conclude that the United States, as it has historically demonstrated, will always curse the liberty of peoples. In other words, as far as we are concerned and at this particularly period, there is no confusion in our definition of the enemy and through whom he acts.

Suddenly, in Western capitals the ringleaders of the armed gangsters began to reveal, without fear or apprehension, the sources of their supplies, while Botha was relatively more at ease in his threats against the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola. He was obviously more sure of the support from his rearguard. We are thus forced to pose an inevitable and necessary

question on the present imperialist offensive: Why does South Africa today once again feel more at ease to mount acts of aggression against the People's Republic of Angola, while at the same time it turns its back on Nkomati Accord?

It is quite clear that the Pretoria regime now appears to be more secure in its arrogance. Logically, this is because there is a stronger country that guarantees it a safe rearguard, thus enabling it to feel free to utter threats of aggression or carry out bloodier actions against the peoples of southern Africa. The same is the case with Israel in the Middle East or with the contras in Nicaragua. As a matter of fact, there are clear signs that a large-scale imperialist offensive is now underway. Who else, apart from the United States, is in a position to play the role of a guide and instigator?

As history has taught, it is the duty of all peoples to defend themselves from this offensive. Every and any kind of justification for this imperialist campaign, be it the pretext of fighting communism or the protection of interests within the framework of an East-West confrontation, is simply a diversionist maneuver aimed at deceiving public opinion and diverting attention from efforts to improve international relations. There is, therefore, the need to appeal for continued vigilance. As was rightly underlined by President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania during his recent visit to our country, there is also the need to redouble the solidarity among peoples and, above all, to be alert in order to cause the enemy's game to fall.

Reason is on our side and we are victims of aggression. These are the fundamental elements that will enable us to achieve victory over the enemy. This is a period for national unity against the enemy to whom we cannot surrender the political military initiative inside our borders. As was the case in Vietnam, history shows us that no force can subjugate a united and determined people having at their head a solid party like the MPLA-Labor Party, a party forged in the struggle against all forms of oppression and subsequently mature enough to lead the revolution until final victory. It is worth pointing out that at a time when we are victims of imperialist aggression, President Abdou Diouf came to Angola and on behalf of the OAU reaffirmed the independent Africa's solidarity with the heroic people of the fatherland of Agostinho Neto. Accordingly, let us strengthen the cornerstones of our reasons and convictions which led to the defeat of the racists in 1975, so that, if they try again now in 1985, they will be swept away. The struggle continues. Victory is certain.

CSO: 3400/159

ANGOLA

MTI REPORTS JOINT HUNGARIAN-ANGOLAN COMMUNIQUE

LD301919 Budapest MTI in English 1719 GMT 30 Sep 85

[Text] Budapest, 30 September (MTI)--A joint communique was issued in Luanda Monday on the official visit of a Hungarian party and state delegation, headed by Pal Losonczi, member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Political Committee and president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, paid to Angola on 27-30 September on the invitation of Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Workers' Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola.

Talks of the Hungarian party and state delegation and the Angolan party and state delegation went on in the spirit of friendship and mutual understanding.

The parties stated that there was a full identity of views on international issues and the principles of the cooperation of the two parties and countries.

Pal Losonczi assured the support of the Hungarian People's Republic of the Angolan people's efforts to eliminate the consequences of the armed aggression of the South African racist regime. Jose Eduardo dos Santos appreciated the achievements of the Hungarian people in socialist construction and the international efforts of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and the Hungarian People's Republic.

The heads of state noted with satisfaction that Hungarian-Angolan relations developed successfully in accordance with the two people's interest, for the benefit of peace and social progress and in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The cooperation of the HSWP and the MPLA-Workers' Party play an important role in it. They confirmed that there were further possibilities for the extension of mutually advantageous economic relations, technical-scientific and cultural cooperation.

On current international issues, the parties expressed concern about the intensification of the international situation, caused by the efforts of extreme imperialist circles to gain military superiority, stresses the communique among other things. The parties expressed hope that the success of the Soviet-U.S. arms limitation talks in Geneva and the November summit would significantly contribute to the strengthening of world peace and security. They assured support of the initiatives of the Soviet Union which serve the promotion of the cause of disarmament and peace.

They expressed support of the struggle of the Namibian people, lead by the SWAPO, for the country's independence. They confirmed that the Namibian issue should be settled in accordance with the resolution No 435 of the UN Security Council. They condemned the Pretoria regime's provisional measures and the establishment of a puppet government in Namibia. Connecting the Namibian issue with the withdrawal of Cuban internationalist troops from Angola is considered an open intervention in the internal policy of the People's Republic of Angola.

Pal Losonczi spoke appreciatively of the international activity of Angola, of its many-sided assistance for the just struggle of the South African independent movements. He stressed the importance of the Angolan contribution to the accomplishment of the goals of the non-aligned movement, the improvement of the international atmosphere and the maintenance of world peace.

The parties expressed anxiety over developments in the Middle East, and took a stand for the assurance of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including an independent and sovereign statehood. They urged an early convening of an international conference with the participation of all parties concerned for the settlement of problems in the region.

The parties expressed their intention to support the implementation of the resolutions from the Seventh Foreign Ministerial Conference in Luanda. They emphasized that the non-aligned movement plays an important part in the peoples' struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racism, and racial discrimination, in the maintenance of international peace, the settlement of regional conflicts and the establishment of a new just world economic order.

The parties highly appreciated the results of the present visit, and expressed their conviction that the friendly and cooperative relations of the two peoples, parties and governments will further strengthen to the benefit of peace and progress.

Pal Losonczi invited Jose Eduardo dos Santos, also on behalf of Janos Kadar, for an official friendly visit to the Hungarian People's Republic. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

CSO: 3400/159

ANGOLA

CAZOMBO BEING REBUILT AFTER UNITA ATTACK

MB140917 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 13 Oct 85

[Text] About 7,000 people who had sought refuge in the bush fleeing from the murderous claws of the UNITA puppet gangsters have in recent days returned to Cazombo, the headquarters of the municipality of Alto Zambeze, where our forces recently mounted a vast clean-up operation which climaxed with the freeing of the residents of the municipality. The mobilization and consciousness-raising of the residents in order to integrate them into the productive activities is the main concern of the local officials engaged in the rapid reconstruction of the municipality razed to ground by the murderous wrath of the Pretoria racists. Cazombo could be compared to a town which has just been hit by a hurricane since UNITA bandits destroyed everything they found there, Paulo Donge, the party coordinator and municipal commissar of Alto Zambeze, pointed out. He added that foodstuffs, soap, medicines, and clothes were the most needed basic commodities during this initial phase.

In an interview given to the national information media, Major Jose Pedro, the commander of the 3d Politico-Military Region, described as satisfactory the results of the operation code-named Second Congress. He also said that the defense and security forces were presently engaged in a total clean-up of the gangsters scattered in the area, adding that the operation was a great success. Maj Jose Pedro said that the Angolan defense and security forces were determined to continue the fight until they totally defeat the UNITA puppets and their bosses and restore peace to our country.

CSO: 3400/159

BOTSWANA

NATION FACES TURMOIL 19 YEARS AFTER INDEPENDENCE

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 30 Sep 85 p 18

Text 7

GABORONE. — Botswana celebrates its 19th independence anniversary today, reeling from a devastating drought and facing mounting political turmoil that threatens to spill over its borders from South Africa.

Meagre rains have consistently failed in the past four years, forcing this sparsely-populated country the size of France, 80 percent of which is covered by the sands of the Kalahari Desert, to import 90 percent of its food needs this year alone.

"The drought is still very, very bad," President Quett Masire's spokesman Lebang Mpolokwane said recently.

Officials said this year's crop, mainly sorghum and maize, would be about 20 000 tons, less than half the 50 000 tons produced in a normal year.

But Vice-President and Finance Minister, Mr Peter Mmusi, presenting the 1985/86 budget in February, said Botswana had overcome the worst effects of the drought and that the economy would grow by four percent next year.

Recovery

He attributed the recovery largely to an increase in Botswana's diamond production and an upturn in world prices of the precious gems. Diamonds are the country's single largest foreign exchange earner, hauling in a record R700 million last year.

But most worrying for Botswana is the escalating violence in South Africa, its main trading partner and the economic giant of Southern Africa, political analysts said.

Relations between the two states chilled last June when South African commandos raided the Botswana capital of Gaborone, killing 12 people and destroying at least 10 houses.

Pretoria said the raid was aimed at bases of insurgents fighting to overthrow the government. Gaborone said all those killed were civilians.

Last week, delegations from the two states held talks in Pretoria, their first since the raid, at which Botswana demanded compensation for the raid. South Africa turned down the request.

The analysts said Botswana was concerned that more refugees would flee into its land as the current South African unrest, which has claimed more than 710 lives in 20 months, escalated.

Some 500 refugees, mainly from South Africa, are in the country.

Botswana has made it clear that despite the raid, it will continue to offer sanctuary to people fleeing South Africa's apartheid racial segregation.

Since independence from Britain in 1966, Botswana has scrupulously avoided active involvement in conflicts in neighbouring countries, including then White-ruled Rhodesia, frequently reminding its neighbours that their opponents were not permitted to launch attacks from its soil.

Power

Pres Masire, who took power after Botswana's first President, Sir Seretse Khama, died in 1980, said this week: "Botswana is often a victim of South African aggression and destabilisation policy."

Last year, he said: "I appeal to them (South Africa) to leave us alone." He was speaking to Reuters after Pretoria had made repeated demands on Botswana to sign a non-aggression treaty aimed against anti-apartheid guerrillas.

South Africa signed such an accord with Mo-

zambique in March, 1984. The pact led to the expulsion from Mozambique of hundreds of ANC insurgents.

More than a year since the pact was signed, South Africa admitted it was still backing Right-Wing Mozambican rebels dedicated to the overthrow of Marxist President Samora Machel.

"This is why Botswana frequently told South Africa there was no need to sign such an accord. Pretoria cannot be trusted," commented a Western diplomat in Gaborone, who asked not to be named.

He added: "Botswana has lived up to its promises not to harbour guerrillas fighting South Africa and those crossing borders into the country have been prosecuted in the past.

Cautious

Diplomats in Gaborone said Botswana was being cautious in the current debate over tougher international sanctions against South Africa, mindful that Botswana would suffer most from such measures.

Mr Mmusi said two weeks ago: "We are neither for sanctions nor against them. We won't stop them or encourage them.

"We know that their economy dominates the region, that almost all our imports and exports pass

through South Africa and that large numbers of our citizens seek work in South Africa."

More than 20 000 Batswana are currently employed on South African mines, besides hundreds of thousands of other workers from neighbouring Black-ruled states.

Botswana, despite being a member of the nine-nation Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) and the Front-line States, was careful about these economic considerations, the diplomats added.

SADCC, whose headquarters are in Gaborone, was formed in 1980 with the aim of reducing the economic reliance of Angola, Botswana, Swaziland, Lesotho, Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe on South Africa, as well as boosting trade among the members.

Botswana is also a member of the Front-line States — with Angola, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe — whose preoccupation is to achieve the independence of SWA.

At their last meeting in Maputo two weeks ago, the Frontline States called for tougher world sanctions against Pretoria, but also asked for international support to cushion financial losses.

BOTSWANA

BRIEFS

CONCERN OVER LOSS OF WORKERS--There is growing concern in Botswana over the "brain drain" to neighbouring Bophuthatswana. While the number of people involved may not be great by South African standards, the loss of even a single engineer hurts a small developing country like Botswana. Evidence of the Government's concern came with a statement by the Commissioner of Labour, Mr Klaas Motshedisi, that the loss of highly-skilled manpower to Bophuthatswana was "unhealthy." Officials believe that the reason for this is that Bophuthatswana pays better salaries. Recent losses have included two medical doctors, two engineers, a geologist, an architect, a university lecturer and a number of teachers. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 3 Oct 85 p 9]

CSO: 3400/156

COMOROS ISLAND

BRIEF

600 ARRESTS FOLLOWING PLOT--Moroni, 3 October (AFP)--The trial of the alleged organisers of an attempted coup in the Comoros Islands last March will take place early next month, acting government spokesman Mohamed Ali said here after a meeting of President Ahmed Adballah's newly-reshuffled cabinet. Members of the mercenary-led Presidential Guard staged a short-lived mutiny last 8 March while the president was absent in France. Exile opposition sources said 600 arrests followed. Mr Ali, who is now minister for production, said the cabinet also discussed decentralisation and administrative reform. [Text] [Paris AFP in English 1247 GMT 3 Oct 85 AB]

CSO: 3400/129

GHANA

REGIONAL SECRETARIES CONFERENCE OPENS IN CAPE COAST

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 27 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Article by J.W. Dadson, Cape Coast]

[Text]

THE 18th session of the quarterly conference of Regional Secretaries opened here yesterday.

In his opening address, Lt-Col E. A. Baidoo, Central Regional Secretary and current chairman of the conference, asked the Secretaries to take stock of their performance to see how far they had been meeting the critical issues facing the people.

He asked his colleagues to take a qualitative look at their regional economies and find solutions that could make it possible for the people to enjoy what the PNDC aspired for them.

The basic challenge which needed attention and solution, he said, was how, as political heads, they could harness the human and material resources in their regions to provide basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing.

Constantly, he urged,

the question which Secretaries could be asking themselves is, what sort of strategies could be adopted "to motivate our farmers and fishermen to produce more food".

A way out, he suggested, was to create support service for farmers and fishermen to increase production, and ensure that the system of distribution of inputs in the rural areas functioned effectively.

Another issue of concern, he noted, was the provision of housing units to meet the pockets of all workers.

The Secretaries later visited Ameen Sangari Soap Factory, Saltpond Ceramics and victims of the recent Ekotsi-Bogyano accident.

CSO: 3400/127

GHANA

NEW INVESTMENT CODE DEMONSTRATES EXTERNAL INVESTMENT CONCERN

Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 27 Sep 85 p 4

[Text]

TO ACHIEVE recovery, the government, in its own words, is taking realistic steps to make Ghana's economic environment more competitive for investment and to achieve this it is necessary to establish a stable institutional framework within which investors may operate.

To oversee the encouragement and approval of external investment, the government is to create a Ghana Investment Centre (GIC), which, among other responsibilities, is empowered to grant approval for the establishment of enterprises under the code. The GIC will also identify specific projects and invite interested investors for the implementation of these schemes. It will also liaise between investors and ministries, government departments, agencies, institutional lenders and other authorities concerned with investment.

The new law identifies priority areas of investment, and for each area lays down a list of applicable incentives and benefits.

For agriculture, including services, the Ghana government guarantees land use for the project, permission for importing essential plant and machinery (which is exempt from payment of customs import duties), and a corporate income tax rate of 45%.

The following allowances and deductions are available:

- (a) Depreciation or capital allowance on plant and machinery to the extent of 100% in the year of investment;
- (b) Investment allowance of 10%;
- (c) In the case of tree crops and livestock excluding poultry, an income tax rebate of 75% in the first

year, 50% in the second year and 25% in the third year. Staff on the farms are exempt from the payment of income tax relating to furnished accommodation.

Manufacturing industries are those defined as producing goods for export that predominantly use local raw materials and produce agricultural equipment, machinery, spare parts and machine tools.

Incentives and benefits for these industries are permission for importing machinery (which is exempt from customs excise duties), and an investment allowance of 7.5% and depreciation or capital allowance of 40% in the year of investment, and 20% in subsequent years.

Businesses involving any real estate development, road construction, and other building industries which may be specified, are also given permission to import machinery and equipment free of customs import duties. An investment allowance of 7.5% per year is also made available, together with an exemption of staff from income tax on accommodation provided on building or construction sites. A depreciation or capital allowance of 50% in the year of investment and 25% in subsequent years is allowed.

Tourism enterprises are also encouraged, such as the provision of hotel accommodation, provided these are net foreign-exchange earners. These enterprises are exempt from customs import duties on plant, machinery and equipment, and enjoy a depreciation or capital allowance on plant and machinery of 50% in the year of investment and 25% in subsequent years, and on buildings 20% in the year of investment and 10% in subsequent years. They are also exempt from taxes and rates on building proper-

ties for a period of up to three years, and enjoy an investment allowance of 7.5% per year.

In addition to these benefits and incentives, any enterprise with priority status which undertakes or supports scientific research in Ghana, approved by the Centre, is allowed to fully deduct the research capital expenditure.

The Ghana government has also allowed further reductions of income tax for enterprises situated in selected area. These range from a reduction of 15% of income tax payable to 40%. The employment of Ghanaian labour in preference to imported machinery also attracts a further list of income-tax rebates.

To encourage export industries, the enterprises earning foreign exchange are permitted to retain, in an external account, a portion of their earnings to acquire spare parts and other inputs. When an enterprise is a net foreign-exchange earner, it may retain at least 25% of its foreign-exchange earnings for acquiring machinery and plant, raw materials, debt servicing, profit and dividend payments and remittances.

The Ghana government has adopted a generous approach to the remittance of earnings, and an approved enterprise is guaranteed free transferability through the Bank of Ghana (or in the case of a net foreign-exchange earning enterprise, through its external account), of dividends or net profits attributable to the investment of:

- (a) freely convertible currency,
- (b) payments in respect of loan servicing on foreign loans,
- (c) fees and charges for technology transfer agreements, and
- (d) the remittance of foreign capital in the event of sale or liquidation.

The Ghana Investment Code specifically states that no approved enterprise shall be expropriated by the government, and no person who owns wholly or in part, capital of an approved enterprise, will be compelled by law to cede his interest to any other person.

The Code lays down a procedure for the settlement of disputes which cannot be amicably resolved. A difference of opinion is to be submitted to arbitration conforming with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law or within an agreement on investment protection to which the Government of Ghana and the country of which the investor is a national, are parties, or in accordance with any other international procedure for the settlement of disputes agreed to by the parties.

The code lays down minimum levels of foreign capital requirement for the establishment of an approved enterprise. No project eligible for foreign participation may be established or operated by a non-Ghanaian unless the investment of foreign capital or capital goods is worth at least US\$60 000 in a joint venture business, or at least \$100 000 where the total equity is held by a non-Ghanaian. The GIC may also only approve an enterprise wholly owned by a non-Ghanaian where it is a net foreign-exchange earner.

The code lays down a number of objectives to which the establishment of an enterprise is expected to contribute. These are:

- (a) the development of the productive sectors of the national economy;
- (b) the efficient utilisation, expansion and diversification of the productive capacity of existing enterprises;
- (c) the utilisation of local materials, supplies and services;
- (d) the creation of employment;
- (e) a real increase in national export earnings;
- (f) real savings on national imports;
- (g) the development and transfer of advance technology; including the upgrading of indigenous technology; and
- (h) the country-wide distribution of viable enterprises.

ON JULY 13 this year the Ghanaian government issued a comprehensive investment code. The 18-page document reveals how seriously the government in that country regards external investment as part of its economic recovery programme to revitalise the economy of Ghana.

The preamble to the new law states that it is "considered vital to encourage investment in the Ghana economy to enable increased production and productivity for national development, and to enable the exploitation of the immense natural resources of Ghana in a manner conducive to the mutual benefit of investors and the nation, and to permit effective employment and the development of skills and technology requisite for the progress of Ghana".

In granting approvals for investment under the code, the Ghana Investment Centre is charged with generating "constructive competition", and avoiding the establishment of monopolies.

To speed the approval of applications from foreign investors, the code lays down maximum periods of time during which the GIC and other government bodies should react. The centre itself, on receipt of an application, must within 14 days submit a copy to the ministry or department "to whose administrative competence such enterprise belongs". The ministry or government department must, within 20 days of receipt of the application, submit any comments or observations to be taken into account by the centre in appraising the proposed enterprise.

Within the conditions of the code the centre may stipulate conditions in its certificate of approval. These relate to:

- (a) the amount and source of capital;
- (b) the nationality and number of shareholders;
- (c) the project's size;
- (d) the training of Ghanaian administrative, technical, managerial and other skills;
- (e) the period of time to begin the implementation of the enterprise;
- (f) reporting on the implementation of the project in operation;
- (g) the prevention and control of any damage to the environment; and
- (h) the use of local raw materials.

The schedule to the code lays down a list of enterprises which are wholly reserved for Ghanaians. These include any retail or wholesale business, unless it is carried on within a department store or super-

market which has employed capital of not less than US\$500 000. Business representation for foreign companies is also restricted to Ghanaians, again unless the company has an employed capital of not less than US\$500 000.

Other restricted areas are the operation of taxi and car hire services, the sale of motor vehicles under hire purchase contracts, advertising and public relations agencies, betting and lotteries, estate and travel agencies, commercial land transport, bakers, beauty salons, barber shops, the manufacture of cement blocks, hand printing of textiles, tyre retreading, manufacture of articles of foam materials and the manufacture of luggage other than for export.

● Readers who wish further information should contact the Ghana High Commission in Harare.

GHANA

MARKET WOMEN PROTEST REVENUE COLLECTION SYSTEM

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 21 Sep 85 p 1

[Article by Akwele Ajavon]

[Text]

MARKET women throughout the country yesterday registered their dissatisfaction with the system of revenue collection in the markets. They protested particularly at what they called "exorbitant" taxes and tolls levied on them by the city and local councils.

According to them, they are made to pay ₦300 monthly as rent for their stalls in addition to duty tolls of ₦20.

Their representatives converged on the Accra Community Centre to participate in a meeting called by the All Women's Association of Ghana (AWAG) to dispel rumours about government plans to impose ₦12,000 income tax annually on traders in the markets.

The meeting also sought to collect basic information on the business activities of market women to enable the Central Revenue Department to deter-

mine their tax liabilities. Mrs Aanaa Enin PNDC member told the meeting that the government had no intention of imposing ₦12,000 income tax annually on traders. She also assured the women that steps would be taken to ensure that they pay the proper taxes.

Explaining the need for income earners to meet their tax obligations, she said "for the nation to develop and progress, people who earn income above a certain level are obliged to pay tax".

Mrs Enin advised the various leaders to record the names of market women and all the taxes and tolls they pay to facilitate the assessment of their tax.

A call by the Principal Inspector of Taxes in charge of traders, Mr Solomon-Tawiah Otoo, to traders in all the markets to pay a registration fee of ₦2,500 to the Central Revenue Department was rejected by the meeting which said members were already over-burdened with the payment of taxes.

CSO: 3400/123

GHANA

MEASURES TAKEN TO END WASTE, CORRUPTION AT GHANAIR

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 25 Sep 85 pp 1, 4

[Text] The reconstituted board of directors of Ghana Airways Corporation (Ghanair) has taken a number of measures aimed at eliminating waste and mal-practices within the corporation and increasing its profitability.

Ghanair is owed ₦118 million by individuals, private companies, corporations and government organisations. As such, no more credit will be allowed and debtors will be discouraged from doing new business with the corporation, even if they are prepared to pay cash, until they have paid their debts.

Ghanair staffs entitlement to free or reduced-cost tickets for themselves, their family and relations has been abused in the past. Not only did such tickets get into wrong hands, but they blocked seats which would otherwise have brought profit to the nation by fare-paying passengers.

Staff concessions on excess baggage and freight have also occupied an excessive amount of cargo space which would otherwise have earned money for Ghanair.

Statistics indicate that if all Ghanair staff made use of all the ticket concessions to which they are entitled under their conditions of employment on European flights alone, their annual demand could theoretically total 65,076 tickets, representing over 242 full flights of the DC 10 aircraft, worth ₦4.7 billion in revenue. In fact, this exceeds the actual flights by almost two and a half times.

If internal, West Coast and other Ghanair flights are included, together with freight and excess baggage concessions, staff requirements could theoretically total facilities worth ₦7.9 billion plus ₦1.6 million. Even assuming that staff only utilize 10 per cent of their entitlements, the government stands to lose ₦466 million and ₦156,000 which, with a total staff of 1,983, works out to approximately ₦238,000 per staff member.

Recognising that the current conditions of service means that staff are entitled to bankrupt the corporation, the board has found it necessary to step in to regulate the use of facilities by staff.

In order to curtail excessive loss of revenue, therefore, Ghanair staff may only apply for tickets to travel when their leave has been approved, and new check-in procedures will ensure that the person travelling on such a ticket is actually the member of staff to whom it was issued. A temporary ban has been placed on ticket concessions for relatives of staff.

Travel abroad by staff on duty has been reduced to the barest minimum, since it has been found that duty travels are often not strictly necessary.

Unauthorised loans to staff, whether by IOUs or through the practice of obtaining tickets on credit for members of the public, have been abolished, and all outstanding unauthorised loans are being retrieved. Loans may now only be granted through proper applications following the laid-down regulations.

Another cause of loss of revenue to Ghana Airways Corporation has been the fraudulent filling of tickets by some sales personnel. For example, the pages of the ticket which go to the auditor and the office manager are filled in for a short journey, costing for example, ₦8,000 but the pages given to the customer may read Accra-London-Accra, costing approximately ₦78,000.

The salesman hands 8,000 to his office and since this agrees with the office portion of the ticket, he is not queried. Meanwhile, he pockets the balance of ₦70,000.

Similar tricks can be used to collect foreign exchange where customers make bookings using a foreign airline, or to help customers to obtain tickets acceptable by foreign airlines without paying in foreign exchange.

In such cases, the fraud would not be detected until Ghanair received a bill from the foreign airline some months later.

New procedures have been implemented to block the opportunities for such frauds, making it impossible for Ghanair tickets to be used for travel on other airlines without satisfying the proper regulations.

Among other measures, the information on a passenger's ticket will be compared by computer with the information on the financial and audit department's pages, and if there is any difference, the booking will be automatically rejected.

The efficiency of the Revenue Accounts department will be improved by the introduction of a microfilm storage system for accountable documents, which will save time and space, and also save foreign currency by speeding up debit notes between airlines.

The board has directed that no overbooking should be permitted, despite the recent explanation by the management that this is normal practice. Any passengers above the number of seats on the flight should be on the waiting list. New check-in procedures are being worked out to simplify the departure of passengers.

With these measures, the board of directors expects to increase the profitability of Ghana Airways and also improve its service to genuine customers.

The board is also examining the rates of allowances for Ghanair crew, having noted with concern that in the first three months of 1985, tax-free allowances totalling ₦3.065 million plus \$358,365 in foreign exchange were paid out.

A Ghanair Captain making a stopover in London, for example, collects a basic daily allowance of ₦103, while a KLM Captain gets ₦28.

A comparative study is therefore being made to enable the board of directors to rationalise Ghanair's rates, a release from the PNDC Secretariat has said.

CSO: 3400/124

GHANA

'EXERCISE HOT FOOT' ENDS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 23 Sep 85 p 8

[Article by Joe Bradford Nyinah, Akim Achiase]

[Text] The Ghana Armed Forces will not waver whenever its ability is called to test, the Commander of the First Infantry Brigade, Col. D. L. K. Klutse, stressed at the weekend.

He however, called for discipline within the forces since without it "the armed forces is a glorified mob organisation."

The commander was speaking at the end of the eighteen-hour "Exercise Hot Foot" organised at the Jungle Warfare School, (JWS) at Achiase.

The exercise which involved 11 kilometres of jungle navigation and 13 kilometres endurance of rugged walk and obstacle crossing was won by the Two Brigade Group from Kumasi led by Major Steve Boateng.

The competitors also included the Number One Brigade, the Airforce, Navy and the Ministry of Defence (MOD) headquarters who followed the Two Brigade in that order.

Col Klutse congratulated the winners and wished them the best of luck in next year's competition.

He appealed to all officers and training institutions to plan towards an improved and successful exercise next year.

The exercise began at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday when the five groups were dropped at their five starting points between Aboabo and Asubua with a kilometre distance between each starting point.

The groups were required to harbour at 5.30 p.m. and continue at 4.30 a.m. the next day.

The First Brigade group was the first to get to the check point arriving at 9.45 a.m. on Friday, the Ghana Navy appeared at 9.55 a.m.

But the seamen had to be at the fourth position because they refused to harbour at 5.30 p.m. as the instruction required.

The Second Brigade won a gold trophy as the prize.

GHANA

JUNIOR RANKS TO SIT ON ARMY DISCIPLINARY BOARDS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 24 Sep 85 pp 1, 5

[Article by George Amosah]

[Text] Junior ranks within the Ghana Armed Forces can now sit on disciplinary boards within the Forces.

Under PNDC Law 63, cases involving subordinate officers or men below the rank of Warrant Officer (WO) in the Ghana Armed Forces will now be judged by disciplinary boards consisting of two officers and three men from the other ranks.

And where the accused is a Warrant Officer, the Commanding Officer will sit on the case with two other Warrant Officers instead of two officers.

According to the Director of the Ghana Armed Forces Legal Services (DLS), Colonel Alexander B. Donkor, Law 63 changes the previous arrangement under which only officers appointed by Unit Commanding Officers sat on disciplinary court panels.

Colonel Donkor said yesterday that the law removes a potential source of tension within the Armed Forces because a major grievance among the junior ranks was that the composition of disciplinary courts enable officers to victimise the other ranks.

Colonel Donkor said the new law is being put into effect in fulfilment of the PNDC's desire to obtain grassroot participation in decision making.

With immediate effect, therefore, he said, investigation and trial of cases would no longer be conducted by Commanding Officers or delegated officers alone. In all cases, he said, a disciplinary board of two officers and three men would be appointed to investigate, try and punish service offenders.

Law 63 further directs that decisions of disciplinary boards should be by a simple majority of the members of the boards.

Colonel Donkor explained that the new law affects only service tribunals and does not change the structure of military court martials except that where an accused is from the ranks, two men would be added to the panel of officers to conduct the trial.

GHANA

AUSTIN ADDRESSES COCOBOD WORKER PROBLEMS, ACHIEVEMENTS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 26 Sep 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by Breda Atta-Quayson]

[Text] Mr Ato Austin, Secretary for Labour and Social Welfare, has said that the workers of Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) have shown maturity in recognising the need for restructuring the board.

He said this maturity has been demonstrated by workers' leaders in educating their colleagues on what the restructuring exercise is all about.

The only point of disagreement, Mr Austin pointed out, is the mechanics for the severance and the payment of appropriate benefits in such a way that it does not become punitive to anybody.

Mr Austin was speaking in an interview shortly after a meeting with the leaders of the workers of COCOBOD at the Castle, Osu, yesterday.

The meeting followed a five-hour demonstration by the COCOBOD workers in Accra yesterday in protest against the mode of payment of benefits to workers who have been affected by the restructuring exercise currently going on at the board.

The government was represented at the meeting by two members of the PNDC, Messrs Ebow Tawiah and P. V. Obeng, Mr Ato Austin, Secretary for Labour and Social Welfare and Mr Yaw Akrasi-Sarpong of the PNDC Secretariat, whilst the workers were represented by their union and CDR leaders. The General Secretary of the Industrial and Commercial Workers Union (ICU), Mr L. Ocloo, the General Agricultural Workers Union's (GAWU's) General Secretary Mr S. Asante and Mr I. Mbeah of the Economic Department of the Trades Union Congress (TUC) who represented the Secretary-General of TUC were also present at the meeting.

Mr Austin said the meeting agreed that any solution to the disagreement on the mechanics of severance and the payment of appropriate benefits to the affected workers must come out of a joint discussion.

He said the meeting also agreed that no letter of severance should be issued out until an agreement has been reached.

The Labour Secretary intimated that the government was doing every thing possible in consultation with various financial institutions to find a way of financing the exercise in such a way as to make it equitable and just to everyone.

A spokesman of the workers said "we have agreed to go back to work because the government has given us an assurance."

"If the government is serious we do not have any bones to pick," he added.

Yesterday workers of the COCOBOD from all the various divisions met at the board's head office in Accra to register their protest against the mode of payment of benefits to those who are affected by the restructuring exercise.

Following yesterday's meeting, the workers, most of them in mourning clothes with red bands around their wrists went into the streets of Accra carrying placards and singing war songs.

The demonstration was very peaceful and without any incident.

Mr Obeng said the government met the management of COCOBOD on Tuesday when the workers were meeting at the board's head office and a letter was written to them indicating the government's desire to meet them to find a solution to their grievances. The government was therefore, surprised when they took to the streets, he said.

CSO: 3400/126

GHANA

MINISTRY OF TRADE SEEKING TO BOOST NON-TRADITIONAL EXPORTS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 27 Sep 85 p 1

[Article by Lloyd Evans]

[Text] The Ministry of Trade is working out a programme with the various banking institutions to grant exporters of non-traditional commodities favourable credit facilities.

This is to induce exporters of these commodities to step up production and export.

These were disclosed by My B. K. Agbleta, acting Chief Director of External Trade, Ministry of Trade, when the British Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade and Industries, Lord Michael Lucas, called on the various directors of trade yesterday.

Mr Agbleta further said that the ministry is currently streamlining the cumbersome procedure for the export of non-traditional commodities.

The acting chief director said the ministry has a long way to go so far as the promotion of export of non-traditional commodities is concerned and that if the ministry and the banks are to play their role in helping the exporter, much would be achieved.

He said the ministry also has intentions to house all the various units responsible for the processing of export permits at a trade centre.

He said under the three-year Economic Recovery Programme (ERP), emphasis had been shifted from the import-oriented trade to that of export and for this reason, the government is rehabilitating certain basic infrastructures in the country to enhance the development and promotion of exports.

Asked by Lord Lucas whether the frequent changes of the Trade Secretaries has affected the policies of the government, Mr Agbleta answered in the negative.

The acting chief director also painstakingly explained to the Under-Secretary, the adjustment of the dollar to the cedi, the retention system for exporters, the difficulties in satisfying the demand of importers and import license programme.

GHANA

TRADE MINISTRY MAKES GAINS IN BOOSTING EXPORTS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 26 Sep 85 pp 1, 5

[Text] The Ministry of Trade has recorded major gains following measures taken by the government to boost exports.

Figures for traditional exports indicate that the shipment of bauxite rose from 44,000 metric tonnes in 1984 to 75,000 metric tonnes within the first six months of this year.

This earned 1.6 million dollars for the country in foreign exchange as against 900,000 dollars in 1984.

This was disclosed by the former Secretary for Trade, Mr Ben Caiquo, in an interview with the GBC in Accra yesterday.

He said in the case of manganese, more than 64 per cent gain was recorded for the first six months of this year as against 9.4 million dollars earned in 1984.

Mr Caiquo said in the timber sector, export permits issued last year were valued at 16.3 million dollars. But for the first six months of this year, the permits rose to the tune of 13 million dollars which is 71 per cent of the 1983 permits, he added.

Mr Caiquo said the performance of specific non-traditional products has also improved considerably. He mentioned in particular, the exports of pineapples, salt and copra, with arrangements underway to ship rubber.

Mr Caiquo announced that with the assistance of the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Ministry of Trade has arranged for eight industries in the furniture and the handicrafts sector to meet potential buyers in Europe to sell their products. The team will leave for Europe next week.

CSO: 3400/123

GHANA

MOHAMMED ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROGRAM GAINS, LIQUIDITY

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 26 Sep 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by Rosemary Ardayfio]

[Text] The Economic Recovery Programme (ERP) launched by the PNDC, has helped to remove a number of bottlenecks that hampered production in the system.

It has gone a long way in providing the necessary framework and incentives for economic growth.

Dr Alhassan Mohammed, Deputy Governor of the Bank of Ghana who made these pronouncements, admitted however that a lot remains to be done in the years ahead to consolidate and increase the gains that have already been achieved.

"The challenge to move forward in progress and development is the challenge of our generation."

The Deputy Governor was speaking at a seminar on "Ghana's Liquidity Problem" organised by the International Association of Students of Economics and Management (AIESEC) in Accra last Tuesday.

He spoke on the theme "The Liquidity Problem and the Banking System" and defined liquidity to include not only the freely spendable assets called money, but also the ease with which any other asset may be converted into money.

In a sense, he said, the liquidity problem has always existed in Ghana, at least, at the level of the individual and it is generally held that the dimensions of the problem are so wide that major governmental action is required to remedy the situation.

Perhaps, he noted, the major cause of the current liquidity crisis was the general increases in prices arising partly from the massive adjustment in the exchange rate of the cedi in October, 1983.

The situation, Dr Mohammed further stated, is the price Ghana had to pay for years of neglect and lack-lustre management policies in various sectors of the country's economy in the past.

He said the fact that borrowers did not obtain the credit they sought from the banks due to reassessment of the viability of their business has been a source of great concern to the Bank of Ghana.

This is because the success of the ERP demands the fullest co-operation of the banking system by channelling adequate credit to the productive or priority sectors of the economy.

Despite the liquidity problem, he said, the banking system has not been put at risk for lack of loanable funds, adding that the Bank of Ghana has a store of measures that could be implemented if there were indications that the lending institutions were facing a shortage of liquid funds.

The Deputy Governor finally stressed that a lasting solution to the liquidity problem lies in increased production in every sector of the economy.

This means, he noted hard work, productivity efficiency, honest management, total dedication and commitment on the part of all Ghanaians.

Mrs Theresa Owusu, Under Secretary for Finance and Economic Planning who chaired the function, noted that the government has taken a number of bold steps to rejuvenate the economy in the past three years.

She was of the opinion that co-operation between the government, the private sector and the regulatory institutions is of fundamental importance for tackling the national economic problems.

According to Mrs Owusu, overdue corrections to excessive liquidity were applied in 1983, as part of the policy package incorporated in the ERP.

These measures, she added, included reduction in budget deficits, rationalisation of relative prices, liquidity control as a tool for "demand management" and reliance on external concessional borrowing to finance capital expenditures.

The result of these measures, she further stated, are that "growth has resumed, inflation has abated and the future looks hopeful."

CSO: 3400/126

GHANA

FRENCH LOAN GRANTED FOR TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 24 Sep 85 p 1

[Text] Ghana is to receive a loan of one hundred million French Francs, about (¢668 million) from the French Public Agency for Development under the Economic Recovery Programme.

The amount which is to be channeled through Caisse Centrale De Cooperation Economique (Central Bank for Economic Co-operation), will be disbursed by the Ghana National Investment Bank.

An agreement to that effect was signed yesterday by Dr Kwesi Botchwey, Secretary for Finance and Economic Planning, who signed for Ghana, while Mr Olivier Beugnot, a Director of Caisse Centrale based in Lome, Togo, initially signed for the agency.

Under the agreement, 34 million French Francs will be utilised by the Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (P & T), Electricity Corporation--12 million French Francs, Ministry of Industries, Science and Technology--20 million French Francs, and the Ministry of Transport and Communications--30 million French Francs.

The P & T Corporation will utilise its share of the loan to procure telephone wires, tools and teleprinter terminals, while the Electricity Corporation will use its loan for transformers, meters, frames and vehicles.

The Ministry of Industries, Science and Technology will utilise its loan for the importation of intermediate products and spares for the private sector, while the Ministry of Transport and Communications will use its share to import new vehicles and spares.

Dr Botchwey hoped the agreement which is the first between Ghana and the agency would mark an important stage in relations between Ghana and the agency.

He also hoped the loan would help improve essential services.

Replying, Mr Beugnot said he was happy the agency has been able to fulfil the promise it made during the 1984 Paris Donors Conference to participate in Ghana's Economic Recovery Programme.

This demonstrates the commitment of France to the development of Ghana and the Economic Recovery Programme, he said.

Mr Beugnot said his agency which has been authorised to operate in Ghana hopes to offer assistance in areas that will enable the country to mobilise its economic potential.

He said discussions are already underway for other projects such as the rehabilitation of Bonsa Rubber Plantation and the construction of a first-class hotel in Accra.

The loan will be paid back in 15 years with a grace period of five years.
--GNA

CSO: 3400/126

GHANA

REDUCTION IN SMUGGLING ON EASTERN BORDER WITH TOGO

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 23 Sep 85 p 5

[Article by Wendy Asiama]

[Text]

SMUGGLING of goods along the country's eastern border with Togo has reduced considerably.

This is the result of a new strategy being evolved by security personnel manning border posts in the Volta Region, especially Aflao and Kpoglo to wage war against smuggling until the canker is brought under control.

Major G. K. Lumor, Commanding Officer in charge of the Aflao Border Post who announced this in an interview said plans are being worked out to plug loopholes in the present system of distributing petroleum products in the district to cut down the incidence of smuggling of the products.

The Commanding Officer attributed the situation to the high prices of petroleum products in Togo but said that the situation is

not very alarming.

On the smuggling of other items, he indicated that the smuggling of food items has subsided due to the abundance of staple foods in both countries.

Asked what has been the state of both passenger and vehicular traffic between Aflao and Togo these days, Major Lumor said they are no more heavy as it was in previous times and attributed the cause to the fact that travellers no longer ply between Ghana and Togo for goods. Another reason, he said was the closure of the Sogakope bridge.

On revenue collection, Mr J. A. Ojoh, principal inspector of Customs at Aflao said revenue collection has gone down considerably but with the new increases in duties it is hoped revenue would pick up.

CSO: 3400/124

GHANA

TRADE AGREEMENT PACT SIGNED WITH CHINA

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 21 Sep 85 p 5

[Article by Harry Mouzalas, GNA special correspondent, Beijing]

[Text]

GHANA and the Peoples Republic of China yesterday concluded two agreements and memorandum of understanding in pursuance of further economic co-operation between them.

Mr Kwamena Ahwoi, Co-ordinator, Revenue Commissioners, Investigations and Tribunals signed for Ghana while Vice-Minister for Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Mr Lu Xve Jian signed for China.

The trade agreement is essentially a renewal of a 1984/85 agreement under which Ghana is to supply China with 2,000 metric tons of cocoa in exchange for the equivalent of Chinese goods to be imported to Ghana.

The second agreement provides for approximately \$15 million interest-free Chinese loan to Ghana to be utilised over five years with a grace period of five years and repayment spread over ten years.

The memorandum of understanding provides for the utilisation of a balance of approximately \$15 million loan granted to Ghana in 1961 for the construction of an irrigation project at Mim Boam near Kongo along the lines of the Afife project.

It is also to provide for the study and construction of a biogas project as part of Ghana's renewable energy resources programme. — GNA.

CSO: 3400/127

GHANA

JAPAN ASSISTS IN ROAD REHABILITATION

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 25 Sep 85 p 1

[Article by Kennedy Fordjour-Mensah]

[Text]

THE Government of Japan has presented 73 units of road maintenance equipment and vehicles to the PNDC government to assist in its road rehabilitation programme.

A spokesman for the Ghana Highway Authority (GHA) told the 'Graphic' at its head office in Accra that the items worth ₦105 million and which will be used by the authority include tipper trucks, water tankers, bitumen distributors, tractors, graders, rollers, pick-ups, caterpillars, trailers, wheel dozers, excavators, a mobile workshop, compressors and facilities for camp accommodation.

The items were supplied under an agreement signed on November 13 last year between the government and Marubezi and Mitsu-

bishi Corporations in Japan.

The items form the second phase of a Mobile Maintenance Unit (MMU) established in June 1983 to rehabilitate specific stretches of badly deteriorated trunk roads in the country.

The MMU has so far rehabilitated the Korongo-Kumasi trunk road in the Ashanti Region and is currently working on the Kumasi-Offinso and Nsawam roads in the Ashanti and Eastern Regions respectively.

This is the second time in two years that the Japanese government has granted aid in the form of equipment and vehicles to Ghana for her road rehabilitation programme.

The first grant of 65 units of vehicles and equipment worth ₦7.7 million was presented to the government on June 9, 1983.

CSO: 3400/124

GHANA

INDIA DONATES SPARE PARTS FOR TATA BUSES

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 21 Sep 85 p 8

[Article by Moses Ohene-Asiedu]

[Text]

FIFTY thousand dollars worth of spare parts have been donated free of charge to the Ghana Government by the Tata Export Company of India, manufacturers of Tata buses.

The parts which would be used in overhauling all the Tata buses belonging to the City Express Service brought into the country in 1980 are expected to arrive in the country shortly.

This was disclosed in Accra yesterday by Mr L. Menezes, Sales Executive of the Tata Export Company of India when he called on the Operations Manager of the City Express Company, Mr R. K. Bentil, at his office to discuss technical matters on the operations of the City Express buses in the country.

Mr Menezes, who has been making regular visits to a number of West African countries which operate Tata bus services, was accompanied

by Mr Mani Raman, Service Manager of Tata Company of India who has also arrived in the country together with Indian experts to update the service facilities and other requirements of the City Express Company.

Mr Raman said the team would ascertain the needs of the company, such as spare parts and other essential components for the smooth operation of the buses.

The Service Manager said the team has plans to conduct surveys all over the country to assess the performance of the Tata buses in the regions.

He hinted that as a result of the production of some spare parts for the Tata buses locally, the importation of these parts would in future be reduced drastically if not completely stopped to conserve foreign exchange.

CSO: 3400/123

IVORY COAST

CPC MESSAGE TO PDCI CONGRESS IN ABIDJAN

AB091455 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1050 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Message from the CPC to the Eighth Congress of the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast in Abidjan on 9 October; read in Mandarin by Liu Tianfu, member of the CPC Central Advisory Commission, with subsequent translation into French --live]

[Text] Your Excellency the respected President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, honorable invitees, and dear brothers and members of the congress: Our delegation, which has been mandated by the CPC Central Committee, has the greatest honor to be invited to attend the Eighth Congress of the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast [PDCI] which has a historic significance. I sincerely wish that the Eighth Congress of your party will be crowned with full success. Please allow me now to read the message addressed to the Eighth Congress of the PDCI by the CPC Central Committee.

[Message] To the Eighth Congress of the PDCI: On the occasion of the solemn session of the Eighth Congress of the PDCI, we are anxious to convey our warm and fraternal congratulations to you and through you to all the members of the PDCI-RDA [Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally] and the Ivorian people. The Ivorian people are a hard-working and courageous people who have a glorious tradition of anti-imperialist struggle. Under the leadership of the PDCI-RDA headed by President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, the Ivorian people conducted relentless struggles in order to win national independence and these struggles were finally crowned with victory. After independence and thanks to your efforts, many successes were achieved in the fields of the safeguarding of national independence, defense of state sovereignty, development of the national economy and culture as well as in other fields.

We are convinced that your congress, which is of great significance, will surely give an impetus to the task of construction of your country and to the continued improvement of the material and cultural conditions of life of your people. We greatly appreciate the fact that as far as external affairs are concerned, your party--which is faithful to the policy of friendship and good neighborliness--is attached to the strengthening of solidarity among the Third World peoples and to the changing of the unjust international economic order and that it is opposed to the use of force. It thus brings its beneficial contribution to the promotion of the unity of the African countries and to the cause of the safeguarding of world peace.

Dear brothers, China and Ivory Coast have had the same historic past. Today, they are facing the common task of developing their economy and of building their own countries. This is a solid basis on which our relations of friendship and cooperation can be developed. We are convinced that thanks to our concerted efforts, the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two parties, the two countries, and the two peoples of China and Ivory Coast will be further developed.

May the Eighth Congress of the PDCI be crowned with complete success!

[Signed] The CPC Central Committee, 9 October 1985.

CSO: 3400/137

LESOCHO

BBC INTERVIEWS INFORMATION MINISTER ON ELECTIONS

MB021830 London BBC World Service in English 1709 GMT 2 Oct 85

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Lesotho Government is clearly upset at suggestions that there was something improper in the conduct of the recent electoral process in which candidates of the ruling Basotho National Party were returned unopposed. Elections were scheduled to take place last month, but were cancelled after the opposition parties failed to submit candidates by the nomination deadline, the previous month. They have alleged that they were not given proper access to voters rolls, enabling them to get the required 500 supporters for each of their candidates, and they have accused the government of Chief Leabua Jonathan of hijacking the Constitution and effectively disenfranchising the people of Lesotho. On the line to Maseru, (Kordera Mense) asked Desmond Sexishe, Lesotho's information minister, how he responded to such charges.

[Begin recording] [Sixishe] Well, I think the first responsibility of all political parties is to provide candidates when and if an election is declared. Parliament was dissolved last December, which was the last specific indication that we were going for elections. The prime minister announced 2 years ago that we were preparing for elections, and I think the responsibility of all parties was to provide candidates in all the constituencies, and that is a party responsibility. Our party did it, but the other political parties did not provide candidates. The reason they did not provide candidates is that there were no people willing to stand for them.

[Mense] The major complaint by the opposition parties is about access to the voters rolls, and they claimed when they went to court on this issue that they had only been given 2 days to inspect the lists.

[Sixishe] I think it is now well known that... [changes thought] what the decision of the court was, because the electoral rolls have in fact nothing to do whatsoever with nomination day. The law is very specific; it says that the government will provide nominational laws 1 month prior to a general election.

[Mense] Is it not correct that each candidate needed 500 supporters and that, in order to get those supporters, he needed to be able to see the full electoral list first?

[Sixishe] That is incorrect. It is the responsibility of each candidate at his constituency to go around the constituency personally, and knock at doors and seek supporters who will in fact be his witnesses, 500 witnesses, and those who support him will sign on a piece of paper in their homes.

[Mense] But it is not correct that these 500 supporters would have to be on the electoral roll?

[Sixishe] Precisely, it is quite correct.

[Mense] The opposition parties say that they were not given a chance to see the full electoral list, even when they did see them.

[Sixishe] That is not true, because the lists were available in all 60 constituencies. What I can tell you is that the opposition parties are going around making all these accusations simply because they noticed a long time ago that they would get no support. May I ask Mr (Mense) why for example--taking into account their accusations, assuming that they are correct--why is it up till nomination day that they did not submit one single candidate to the electoral office? One should be talking about withdrawal of candidates as a result of chicanery on the part of the government. One should be talking of withdrawal or candidates as a result of harassment by government, right? But there is no question of withdrawal of candidates. In fact, what appears to have happened is that they did not even register one single candidate.

CSO: 3400/137

LIBERIA

BRIEFS

ELECTION BOYCOTT THREATENED--The Liberian Unification Party, LUP, today became the third political party that has threatened to boycott the forthcoming general elections if Secom [Special Elections Commission] failed to follow the laws to the letter. The chairman of the National Democratic Party of Liberia, Mr Keikura Kpoto, reacting to a statement by the standard bearer of the Liberian Action Party, Mr Jackson Doe, that they would boycott the elections if denied representation at the counting of the ballots and if the voters registration list is not published. [sentence as heard] Speaking at a political rally on Wednesday in Kakata, Margibi County, Mr Kpoto said LAP wants to boycott the elections because they have no one to vote for them. He said that if LAP boycotts the forthcoming elections, the National Democratic Party of Liberia will go [words indistinct]. [Text] [Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 26 Sep 85 AB]

MONROVIA TEACHERS STRIKE--Hundreds of public school teachers in the Monrovia area yesterday boycotted classes in demand of their July and August salary arrears. The teachers' demands also include the 1984-85 fiscal year transportation allowance. According to today's edition of the FOOTPRINTS newspaper, shortly after the boycott yesterday morning, a position statement signed by 12 officials of the National Union of Liberian Teachers, NULT, was read to nearly 100 representatives of the teachers. The statement was read to the teachers by the president of the Union, Mr [name indistinct] at the headquarters of the union in Jallah Town. The teachers were quoted in the statement by the paper as saying there can be no education in any nation without qualified teachers, and there can be no successful teaching without attractive and regularly paid salaries and suitable conditions of service for teachers. The statement added that the teachers have observed on many occasions the failure to recognize their importance in national development, as evidenced by treatment given them as regards the conditions of service. [Excerpts] [Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 1 Oct 85 AB]

CSO: 3400/139

MOZAMBIQUE

DOCUMENTS ON MNR-RSA LINKS VIEWED

MB031418 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] This week, South African President P.W. Botha led a spirited defense of his armed forces' chief of staff, Gen Constand Viljoen. This came in the wake of new revelations contained in documents captured by the Mozambican army that General Viljoen was being a key figure in South Africa's nonobservance of the Nkomati accord. The documents concerned were written by a close aid to the leader of the terrorist organization known as MNR or Renamo.

They were found when the main terrorist base of Gorongosa, in central Mozambique, was overrun by a joint Mozambican and Zimbabwean force at the end of August. (?The other document) is a desk diary left behind as the terrorists fled in disarray. The name of Gen Constand Viljoen, South African Chief of Staff, appeared in the diary entries concerning a meeting in Pretoria on 6 September last year. The meeting was attended by MNR terrorist leaders and by General Viljoen and other senior South African military men. This was 6 months after South Africa agreed to end its support for the MNR terrorists under the terms of the Nkomati accord. The meeting also came after the Mozambican Government had offered its amnesty to MNR terrorists who gave themselves up.

We wrote from the minutes of that meeting contained in the captured diary: General Viljoen agreed to send us humanitarian aid in air force C-130 planes. He recommended us not to accept the amnesty. The general recommended us not to be fooled by the schemes of Pik Botha, who is treacherous, and even agreed with Chester Crocker's idea of Frelimo offering an amnesty to Renamo bandits. End of quotation.

We should perhaps urge clarification. In the diary, the words humanitarian aid appear between inverted commas. The diary entry continues, and again we quote: General Viljoen went on to say I agree with the joint strategy for putting Machel out. Because we want to remove the Russians from our region of Southern Africa, we have to employ a joint strategy to be able to defeat communism, in such a way as not to let the outside world, the United States, perceive it, because the world is convinced that Machel is changing, because he does not seem to them to be entirely communist.

The MNR diary went on to quote General Viljoen as guaranteeing that he is on the MNR's side until, as he put it, final victory. The general said he wants us to remove the communists from the area. And we quote again from General Viljoen's (talk), as presented in the diary: The United States has its way of fighting Russians, like South African politicians too, who have their way of fighting communism, and we soldiers have our way of fighting the Russians. End of quotation.

On the question of new supplies for the MNR to be flown into Mozambique secretly on C-130 transport planes, General Viljoen was as good as his word: The diary lists five planeloads in the last week of October last year.

A few extracts from the captured MNR diary, and P.W. Botha's defense of General Viljoen, speak for themselves about South Africa's attitude toward the Nkomati nonaggression accord.

CSO: 3400/155

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

SUPPLEMENT TO USSR ACCORD--A supplement to the cooperation accord between Mozambique and the Soviet Union was signed in Maputo today. Under the terms of the supplement, the Soviet State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education will send experts and equipment to 11 technical schools in Mozambique. The signing of the supplement comes at the end of the visit to Mozambique by (Tamara Dlazak), deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education. [Summary] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 11 Oct 85 MB]

TEACHERS' MEETING--The Southern African teachers regional conference has approved solidarity motions with the ANC of South Africa, SWAPO, and the Frontline States and a final motion of gratitude to the people and government of the People's Republic of Mozambique for the excellent hospitality extended to the guests to the meeting. The motions were approved at the closing session held today in Maputo. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 11 Oct 85 MB]

CSO: 3400/155

NIGERIA

BABANGIDA PRIORITIZES COMPLETION OF KEY PROJECTS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 26 Sep 85 p 16

[Text]

THE completion of key projects which would make us self-reliant is to be accorded top priority, President Ibrahim Babangida, has said.

He said at a seminar on economic recovery sponsored by the African-American Institute and the Nigerian-American Chamber of Commerce at Eko Hotel, Lagos on Tuesday that the projects are the Paper Mills at Jebba, Oku-Iboku, and Iwopin, the fertilizer projects at Onne and Kaduna as well as the machine tools industry at Osogbo.

Other projects to be accorded priority include petro-chemical projects (phase one and two) the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) project, the third oil refinery at Port Harcourt and the various steel projects in the country.

General Babangida said that though the government was committed to the completion and consolidation of these projects it would welcome ideas on how these could be achieved in order to boost the nation's economy.

He reiterated the administration's determination 'to take the bull by the horn and get on with the structural changes that would get the nation's economy back on its feet.'

President Babangida expressed regret that after a quarter of a century of nationhood, Nigeria was still trying to cope with numerous problems of backward economy.

The problems, he said, included a very weak industrial and technological base, massive importation of machinery and raw materials, inadequate foreign exchange earnings, unemployment, poor infrastructure, such as electricity, water supply, roads and food shortages.

General Babangida therefore expressed the hope that at the end of the seminar, 'constructive and useful suggestions would have emerged to assist us in facing our economic future with renewed hope and confidence.'

He urged the participants to focus attention on ways to develop domestic raw materials and substitutes, to look for ways to sustain a measurable development of agriculture in order to attain sufficiency in food and to provide raw materials.

Other areas, he said, included development of export sub-sector in order to diversify the country's foreign exchange earning potential away from oil, privatisation of necessary government commercial ventures and investment promotion.

He noted with satisfaction that participants at the seminar were drawn from within and outside the country and that 'international favour was most welcome and was indicative of a desire of our foreign friends to see us succeed.'

President Babangida assured that the right condition and atmosphere will be created to attract badly needed foreign capital to supplement local resources.

Earlier, in a welcome address to the president, the President of the African-American Institute, Mr. Donald Easum, a former U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria, said that the seminar was arranged to coincide with the independence anniversary in order to demonstrate faith in the recovery of the Nigerian economy.

In his speech, the President of the Nigerian-American Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Arthur Nylander said the presence of President Ibrahim Babangida had rightly proved that he had something good for the generality of Nigerians and the desire to revamp the nation's economy.

Dr. Nylander recalled that President Babangida's visit was one of his first official outings since he assumed power and thanked him for honouring his Chamber's invitation.

CSO: 3400/143

NIGERIA

BABANGIDA ADVISES MINISTERS OF THEIR ROLE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 17 Sep 85 p 5

[Text of address by Major-General Ibrahim Babangida, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Nigeria on the occasion of the swearing-in of the National Council of Ministers on 12 Sep 85]

Members of the AFRC,
Members of the National Council
of Ministers,
Ladies and gentlemen.

I congratulate most warmly the distinguished Nigerians who have been appointed as members of the National Council of Ministers by the Armed Forces Ruling Council.

In the twenty-five years of our existence as a nation, we have made many mistakes and missed many opportunities to make our country great — politically and economically. Throughout these years, no government has sat down and reflected on what are the causes of our problems as a people and as a country. It is about time we did that. Essentially, Nigerians cherish their freedom and fundamental human rights. However, we have since the seventies, been under the illusion of thinking big and pursuing every aspect of our endeavour in a big way.

We tend to be suspicious of one another and always try to blame others for our mistake.

Tribalism, sectionalism and nepotism have been institutionalised and the elite among us have taken advantage of the situation to the detriment of the ordinary people of this country. It is our duty to reverse the trend now.

Your appointment as ministers has been based purely on your personal merit. You have not been selected to represent your state of origin or any group interest. As leaders who are entrusted to run the affairs of government in the country, let the whole country be our constituency.

Let us resolve that we are in government to serve and not to be served. Let us conduct ourselves in such a way that the average Nigerian will be proud to raise his head anywhere in the world and say that I am proud to be a Nigerian. Let our different religious, tribal and cultural backgrounds be our strength, not a source of weakness.

The minister has a dual role to perform. He is the political head and Chief Executive of his ministry and directly answerable to the president for all the activities of his ministry. He also shares collective responsibility with other members for the decisions and action of the National Council of Ministers.

The task of a minister is arduous and difficult. But our Civil Service, in spite of its obvious shortcomings, is still strong and resilient enough to serve as a useful tool in fulfilling your leadership role and sustaining the activities necessary for national survival in these trying times. You should be able to draw on the experience and objectivity of the higher civil service in this regard.

There can be no doubt about your superior position as the minister in your ministry. But you are expected to exercise your immense powers in full consultation with your permanent secretary. The permanent secretary as your chief adviser and the accounting officer must be taken into absolute confidence for effectiveness and achievement in the ministry. In order to guard against the creation of divided loyalty, ministers should not deal directly with officers working under the permanent secretary. On his own part, the

permanent secretary must, at all times, keep his minister informed of whatever is happening in the ministry. In particular, the permanent secretary should not bypass his minister by taking policy issues directly to higher authorities.

Apart from developing a healthy working relationship with the civil servants, every minister should re-examine not only the objectives, policies and programmes of his ministry but also the method of implementation for enhanced efficiency and quicker results. Undue delay in the implementation of programmes had been partly responsible for under-achievement in the past. It was not unusual for contract costs to escalate to double their original values because of delays

in implementation by those entrusted with the execution of government projects. Moreover, the country still lacks the statistical base for effective planning. Our trade figures and other statistical data are routinely three to four years in arrears. In dealing with other countries, therefore, we are forced to rely on information supplied by them. This state of affairs is unsatisfactory and will no longer be condoned.

We intend this administration to be a government of action committed to a programme with clear economic and social goals. The main aims are to revive the economy, restructure external and internal borrowing, streamline the administration, promote exports, recognise the realistic value of the Naira, reduce government involvement in all aspects of Nigerian life, eliminate waste and corruption and tackle crime especially armed robbery. More important is our wish to create the basic industries in order to reduce Nigeria's dependence on imported raw materials; and to stimulate agriculture so that Nigeria becomes self-sufficient in food production.

Our first task as a government is to identify the problems of this country more closely and categorise them into immediate, medium and long-term. We should then map out policies which would be applied on a consistent basis to solve them. Some of the most disturbing problems which we have tackled domestically are the size of public expenditure which results into persistent budget deficit; the high level of inflation and unemployment. Although an attempt has been made in the recent past to narrow the budget deficit, efforts must be maintained to contain it at a level not above four per cent of GDP as advised by experts.

On inflation, we have to de-emphasize our strategy on demand management and tackle the supply side. Short and long-term solution to our unemployment problem must be found. As a short-term measure we must ensure that the productive sector of the economy is kept active so that it can absorb some of the unemployed. With the pursuance

of a structural adjustment of the economy and the re-examination of our educational policy, we should be able to take care of the unemployment problem in the long run.

Government parastatals and government-owned companies are faced with inefficient management, high overhead costs and in most cases, a negative rate of return on investment. Some of the inefficiency may not be unconnected with the interferences which they suffer

from their supervising ministries. Government will review the situation of parastatals to make them more efficient and operate essentially along the same lines as similar organizations in the private sector — be efficient, break even and endeavour to make profits. All parastatals and government-owned companies should ensure that they recover their debts in time.

In order to enhance the effectiveness of the council, and to allow more time for matters of policy to be discussed in detail, the procedure for considering awards of contracts which are beyond the scope of the Ministerial Tenders Boards and memoranda with financial implications will be reviewed so that a Committee of Council may deal with such matters and make recommendations for the approval of the president.

This procedure is necessary because the present practice for dealing with these matters does not give enough time to ministers to think and to reflect on problems facing their ministries and the economy generally. Besides normal meetings of council, each minister will be asked to give periodic progress report on his ministry. Also progress reports on the implementation of council decisions will be presented to the full council periodically.

The structure of Federal Ministries has been reviewed for greater efficiency and effectiveness. Ministries which were too large to be efficiently handled by one minister have been broken into two, taking into account the functional relationships of the various departments. The ministry of Commerce and Industries has been replaced by two

ministries, Trade and Industries. The Ministry of Information, Social Development, Youth, Sports and Culture has been broken into two, namely, Ministry of Information and Culture and Ministry of Social Development, Youth and Sports. In addition, the Ministry of Education, Science and

Technology has been replaced by two ministries, Education and Science and Technology.

We are running an open administration which emphasizes responsiveness to the yearnings and aspirations of the people. Since we do not claim to know all the answers, ministers must demonstrate a willingness to listen to genuine advice and constructive criticisms from all well-meaning Nigerians. Every Nigerian should be given the opportunity to contribute to the progress and development of the only country we can call our own.

You should encourage dialogue between your ministry and the various groups representing interests related to matters within your portfolio. Every opportunity must be taken to explain government policy on domestic and international trade matters.

I have noted with understanding the observation that there is no woman among the ministers. As I have already indicated, ministers were not selected to represent any group or other interests. I wish to assure the women of this country that this administration places great premium on the role of the women in all aspects of human

endeavour. We will utilise to the fullest advantage the wealth of talent and character represented by the Nigerian woman. The policy that state governments should have at least one woman in their executive councils will continue to be strictly applied.

Finally, I wish to remind you that we place a high premium on public probity and accountability. As ministers, whatever you say in public will be interpreted to mean government views. The way you conduct yourselves officially and privately reflects the image of the government. It is essential that you lead an exemplary life. The Nigerian public must not see in you something which you and the government will be ashamed of.

This government will not condone any act of indiscipline, impropriety, nepotism or disloyalty. We will not hesitate to remove any minister who is found wanting. You have a duty to the nation, to the government and to yourself to ensure that you discharge your responsibility creditably.

I wish you God's guidance and success in your endeavours.

Thank You.

CSO: 3400/104

NIGERIA

BABANGIDA EXPLAINS WHY MALA DROPPED AS INDUSTRY MINISTER

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 26 Sep 85 p 1

[Text] A new Minister of Industries will be appointed this week, President Ibrahim Babangida, has announced.

He told the NEW NIGERIAN that this was because the Minister-designate, Alhaji Lawan Mala, from Borno State, has been dropped.

General Babangida said Alhaji Lawan was dropped for the same reasons that Mr Netima was dropped as Rivers State Governor early in 1984.

He said the government received a very strong representation from Borno State about Alhaji Lawan's nomination and that the government took the decision because it respected the yearnings and views of people.

He said because of the unforeseen development, the swearing-in of the minister was postponed until a new suitable one is appointed.

Commenting further on the issue, he said "well I think this thing is not new, we had had similar situation in the past where we appointed a governor and as a result of the development which is the same, we had to postpone the swearing-in ceremony until we found somebody who was much more suitable."

CSO: 3400/143

NIGERIA

WATHANAFYA APPOINTED PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 26 Sep 85 p 9

Article by Nkem Agetua

Text Mr. Hamidu Wathanafa has been appointed Principal Secretary to the President and Commander in Chief.

Mr. Wathanafa, 38, attended Government College, Keffi from 1963-1968, and holds a B. Sc (government) 1973 and masters in public administration (1979) from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

He joined the defunct North Eastern State civil service as an administrative officer Grade VIII in 1974 and became secretary, North East Tenders Board in 1975. In 1976, he was appointed secretary, Borno State Executive Council, and became deputy permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Borno State in 1979. In 1980, he became Principal Inspector, NYSC, Borno State.

Mr. Wathanafa was appointed Administrative Secretary in the office of the Borno State Head of Service from 1981 to 1983 and moved to State House, Marina, Lagos as deputy secretary from 1984 till his now appointment.

He is married with three children. His hobbies are lawn tennis and hunting.

Mr. Hamidu Wathanafa has resumed duty and would be sworn in at a date to be announced.

CSO: 3400/146

NIGERIA

PERMANENT SECRETARIES CHANGE PORTFOLIOS IN BORNO STATE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 19 Sep 85 p 9

[Article by Abdullahi Idris]

[Text]

THE Borno State Government has moved around nine out of its 15 permanent secretaries.

The secretary to the state Government and Head of Service, Alhaji Usman Gaji Gaitmari, said in Maiduguri that the movement was approved by the governor, Major Abdul Mumini Aminu.

The permanent secretaries involved are Alhaji Mahdi Bukar of the Ministry of Health who moves to Ministry of Finance while the incumbent Dr. Adamu Mohammed Fika goes to Establishment and Service Matters in the Governor's Office.

The Permanent Secretary of Establishment Hajiya Hamra Imam takes charge of administration in the Governor's Office from Alhaji Dauda Fika who is now posted to special duties, while Alhaji Umara Gashua, Permanent Secretary Cabinet Office and Security Matters, moves to Civil Service Commission and Dr. Saidu Mohammed of Ministry of Works and Housing takes over from him.

The Permanent Secretary Civil Service Commission, Alhaji Baba' Bukar is posted to Ministry of Local Government and Community Development and Alhaji Baba Baaba Permanent Secretary incharge of Liaison Office. Lagos goes to Ministry of Works, while Malam Mari Madu of the Ministry of Local Government moves over to health.

Permanent secretaries not affected are Alhaji Ibrahim Musa, Agriculture, Alhaji Baba Shehu Yerima, Commerce and Industry and Alhaji Mohammed Maina Bukar, Ministry of Education. Others are Dr. J. A. Mamza, Home Affairs and Information; Malam Ibrahim Garndawa, Justice and Alhaji Othman Mustapha, Political and Monitoring Unit in the Governor's Office.

The secretary to the governor said all handing/taking over should be completed by September 24.

CSO: 3400/105

NIGERIA

TWO LAGOS STATE SECRETARIES RETIRE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 17 Sep 85 p 9

[Text]

THE Secretary to the Lagos State Military Government, Dr. Olufemi Lewis, has given notice of retirement from the state civil service.

According to a statement from the governor's office in Lagos at the weekend Dr. Lewis started his leave preparatory to retirement last Monday.

Gov. Gbolahan Mudasiru has, however, approved Dr. Lewis' appointment as a member of the state civil service commission.

Meanwhile, the governor has also approved the appointment of Mr. K.A. Banmeke as the acting Secretary to the Military Government and Head of Service.

Mr. Banmeke was until his appointment the permanent secretary in the state Ministry of Works and Transport.

This was made known in a statement issued from the governor's office.

In the meantime, the Secretary to the Cross River State Government and Head of Service, Mr. Askia Usoro, has retired voluntarily from the state civil service.

Governor Archibong described Mr. Usoro's decision to retire voluntarily as an indication of leadership by example.

CSO: 3400/105

NIGERIA

TEN PERMANENT SECRETARIES REASSIGNED IN LAGOS STATE

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 17 Sep 85 p 12

[Text]

TEN permanent secretaries in the Lagos State civil service have been re-assigned in a shake-up announced yesterday by Governor Gbolahan Mudasiru.

Dr. R. A. Soule, formerly of the state Metroline Company, was appointed permanent secretary, political, economic and home affairs department in the Governor's Office.

His appointment will, however, be affected on his return from the Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies, Kuru, Jos, where he is undergoing a course.

Replacing the acting head of civil service, Mr. Kola Banmeke, as permanent secretary for works and transport is Mr. Raheem formerly of lands, housing and development matters in the Governor's Office.

Mr. V. O. Ogundimu, formerly of the local government and chieftaincy affairs moves to department of the local government and chieftaincy affairs moves to department of lands, housing and development matters, Governor's Office, while Mr. O. A. Odukomaiya of the general administration department in the Governor's Office,

becomes permanent secretary for Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs.

Movement

Mr. L. B. Ajao becomes permanent secretary for general administration department in the Governor's Office, while Mr. J.T. Somoye formerly of commerce moves to the

Civil Service Commission and Mr. T. O. Odusanya goes to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Mrs. A. A. Taire, the only woman permanent secretary, moves from health to Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives; Mr. A. A. Badmos from education moves to Ministry of Health; Mr. B. G. Sadare from agriculture and co-operatives moves to Ministry of Education while Mr. S. O. Alafia moves from the Cabinet Department (secretary to the state government office), to become permanent secretary (special duties) and director of audit.

Performance

Four others retain their positions. They are Mr. O. Oluwatoyin, Ministry of Information, Sports, Youths and Welfare; Mr. A. O. Anjorin, Ministry of Finance; Mr. E. A. Akappo, Establishment and Service Matters, SMG's Office and Mr. F. A. O. Adeyemi, Plans, Programme and Budgeting Department.

Explaining the changes, Governor Mudasiru said it was aimed directly at facilitating the achievements of the objectives, programmes and projects of the state government.

He hoped that the changes would inject a new impetus into the machinery of government and lead to lasting improvements in the overall performance of the public service.

The administration's aim, the governor noted, was to make the state's public service "second to none."

CSO: 3400/105

NIGERIA

NEW CROSS RIVER STATE CABINET SWEORN IN

Emugu DAILY STAR in English 20 Sep 85 p 10

[Text] The Cross River Governor Col. Dan Archibong, has sworn in eight of his nine-member Executive Council with a declaration that the decisions of the council would be "the collective responsibility of all its members."

He said that membership of the council demanded "absolute loyalty", warning that "such loyalty cannot be compromised" and advised ministerial responsibilities, made after careful evaluation."

He further pointed out that the appointments also reflected the ethnic composition of the state, explaining that it was designed to give each unit an opportunity to contribute to the development of the state and to have a sense of belonging.

The governor told the commissioners that it was their duty to explain government policies and programmes to their people and to devise strategies for accomplishing the administration's goal.

On the civil service, the governor said that "with the conclusion of the restructuring exercise, government will soon lift the ban on promotions so that deserving officers may be those who might not be able to meet the requirement to opt out of the team or be pushed out.

Gov. Archibong stated that the appointments were made on merit and the allocation of rewards".

He warned that public servants would be assessed by their performance and the commitment shown in the service.

The eight commissioners who were sworn in are Mr Edet Bassey, (agriculture), Chief Sylvester Henshaw (commerce and industry), Chief Enouch Udofia (Education), and Mr Mbom Etuk (Finance).

Others are Mrs. Elizabeth Ekong (Health), Dr Michael Ogan (Information), Mr Etang Umoyo (Local Government) and Mr Victor Ndom-Egba (Works and Transport).

The ninth commissioner, assigned the Ministry of Justice was however not sworn in.

Gov. Archibong explained that the swearing-in would be held "as soon as some technical details have been sorted out".

Also to be sworn in later as ex-officio members of the State Executive Council are the Commander of the 13 Amphibious Brigade of the Nigeria Army; the Commanding Officer, NNS "Annansa", Nigerian Navy and the acting commissioner of police.

In another development, a new secretary to the state government and head of service Mr Gabriel Ogar was also sworn in on Tuesday.

Mr Ogar was, until his appointment, a permanent secretary in Governor's Office. He succeeds Mr Askia Usoro, who retired recently.

A new permanent secretary, Mr Okon Ekereuwem; was also sworn in. No portfolio was however yet given to the new permanent secretary.

CSO: 3400/108

NIGERIA

ARMY ANNOUNCES 288 POSTINGS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 19 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Text]

THE former Governors of Sokoto, Bauchi and Imo states are among the 288 postings of army officers announced by the Nigerian Army Headquarters, Lagos.

The ex-Governors are — Brigadier Mohammed Sani Sami, who is now the Provost Marshal of the Army, Brigadier Garba Duba, appointed Director of Army Staff Duties and Plans, Army Headquarters and Brigadier I.O.S. Nwachukwu, now the Adjutant-General of the Army.

The postings included all the ones made earlier from the President, the

Chief of Army Staff, the Divisional Commanders, Ministers and governors.

Some of the postings were Brigadier M.M. Nassarawa, now Commandant of the Nigerian Army School of Infantry, Jaji; Brigadier S.A. Adenihun, Defence Adviser in Zimbabwe, now Director, Joint Services; Brigadier Salihu Ibrahim, now Director, Army Faculty; Brigadier Sunday Ifere, Defence Adviser formerly in Britain, now Quarter Master General and Brigadier U.S. Yaro, Commandant, Nigerian Army Depot, Zaria, now Director of Services, and Brigadier A.B. Mamman, a member of the Armed Forces Ruling Council (AFRC), now Director of the Nigerian Army Corps of Artillery Brigadier Ola Oni, former General Officer Commanding 2 Mechanised Division, member of the AFRC, is now Director of Joint Services, Ministry of Defence.

Brigadier S.L. Yusuf, from the Command and Staff College, Jaji,

has been posted to the army headquarters as Director of Army Training and Operations. Lt.-Colonel R.A. Rasaki, a member of the AFRC, now takes over from Lt.-Colonel A.T. Ayuba, as Commander, Corps of Signals.

The new Commandant of the Nigerian Army Depot, Zaria is Colonel B. Kachim while the Commander of the 9 Mechanised Brigade is Colonel A.A. Abubakar.

The new Defence Attaché in Britain is Colonel D.A. Dyeris

and Colonel Cyril Iweze from 15 Mechanised Brigade, Yola, is now Colonel General Staff, 3 Armoured Division while the new Principal Staff Officer of the Command and Staff College, Jaji is Colonel J.A.O. Adekanye. Lt.-Col. M.A. Balogun is now Defence Attaché in Harare, Zimbabwe. Lt.-Col. M. Maina, now Defence Attaché in Cairo, Egypt, and Lt.-Col. J.M. Madaki, from 6 Guards Battalion moves to Headquarters Guards Brigade as commander.

Most of the new postings took effect from September.

CSO: 3400/102

NIGERIA

BRIGADIER ADOMOKAI ASSUMES 1ST MECHANIZED DIVISION COMMAND

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 26 Sep 85 p 7

[Text]

THE new General Officer Commanding 1 Mechanized Division, Brigadier Igezonya Peter Adomokai, has assumed duties. He formally took over the command and administrative duties of the division on Monday.

Brigadier Adomokai succeeded Brigadier Ola Oni, now Director of Joint Services, Ministry of Defence, Lagos.

Brigadier Adomokai was the Director of Army Staff Duties and Plans and Chairman Special Tribunal, Kaduna Zone.

He attended his cadetship course at Haile Selassie 1 Military Academy in Ethiopia, after which he was

commissioned as a second Lieutenant in the army on October 12, 1965.

He had attended courses in Nigeria and overseas, in 1967 he went to the United States of America to read Internal Defence and Development.

He went back on a tactical course at Adfance Infantry and Air-Borne Officers Course between 1974 and 1975.

He also attended Command and Staff College Jaji in 1976 and the senior executive course at the Nigerian Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies at Kuru, Jos.

Brigadier Adomokai is married with children.

CSO: 3400/147

NIGERIA

BRIEFS

NEW GOC TOURS ARMY UNITS--The newly appointed General Officer Commanding (GOC) One Mechanised Division of the Nigerian Army, Brigadier Peter Igezunya Adomokhai visited Army units and formations within Kaduna. During the familiarization tour, the GOC inspected guards of honour and held closed door discussions with unit commanders. The seven units visited were 51 Division Headquarters Signals, One Base Workshop, BODK, and 241 Recce Battalion. Other places were 41 Mechanised Division Engineers, GADK, and 33 Air Defence Artillery. The GOC's entourage included the Commanding Officer of One Mechanised Infantry Headquarters and Signals, Lt-Col Emmanuel Okoko and the Divisional Public Relations Officer, Major R.O. Omowa. Before his appointment, Brigadier Adomokhai was the Director of Army Staff Duties and Plans and Chairman of the Special Military Tribunal, Kaduna Zone. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 27 Sep 85 p 21]

PRINCIPAL GSO NAMED--A principal general staff officer has been appointed for the General Staff Headquarters, State House. He is Navy Captain S. Saidu, one-time military administrator in Rivers State under General Murtala/Oba regime. Before his appointment, Captain Saidu was the deputy director, state administration in the defunct Supreme headquarters. He has since assumed duties of the General Staff Office, Lagos. [Text] [Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 27 Sep 85 p 13]

KURE TO ADDRESS SOLDIERS' PROBLEMS--The welfare problems of soldiers will soon be determined so as to find lasting solutions to them, Brigadier Y. Y. Kure General Officer Commanding 2 Mechanised Division, Nigerian Army, promised in Ibadan yesterday. Addressing officers and men under his command at Odogbo Cantonment, the commander promised to eliminate problems in the army or at least reduce obvious ones to manageable proportions. "Professional competence of officers will be very much encouraged by ensuring that training facilities are improved to enhance proficiency." Brigadier Kure reminded them of the fact that resources were scarce and that they must do away with any form of waste. He told the officers to be prepared to improvise and to succeed in the training of their men, adding that this would demand a lot of initiative and imagination from them. [Text] [Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 27 Sep 85 p 24]

CSO: 3400/147

NIGERIA

COMMODORE FINGESI ADDRESSES NAVAL CADET GRADUATES

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 24 Sep 85 p 8

Article by Olu Adebayo

Text

NIGERIAN Navy officials have been told that only team work and undivided loyalty would guarantee their success and survival in the service.

"There is no room for indolence", Chief of Naval Operations, Commodore O.P. Fingesi told 526 newly graduating ratings including 71 females at a passing out parade at the Basic and Divisional Training School, Apapa last Friday.

He emphasised that "the success of the navy can only be guaranteed when we are determined to work together as a team."

Commodore Fingesi alerted the new ratings of the "new" navy they were going into, which, he said, had become sophisticated both in operations and weaponry.

"Gone are the days when the navy depended on manual operated guns", he said, urging them to strive hard to keep up with the technological advancement of our weapons systems.

Training, he said had become one of the most vital aspects of the service because according to him, in modern naval warfare, the single most important factor

in victory was preparation and training.

He therefore called on those in charge with the responsibility of training to do their best to justify the huge investments the country was putting into giving excellent training to its armed forces.

Commodore Fingesi expressed delight that those passing out included 71 female trainees who, he said, were pioneers in the navy's effort to offer equal opportunities to women in its non-combatant service.

While he said that adequate arrangements have been made for their welfare, he pointed out, however, that their discipline and behaviour would determine their future progress in the service.

While congratulating the officers in charge of the school for their hard work, he promised that the navy was determined to give its officers and men the best possible training locally.

He announced that the B & D School would soon be moved to the Basic Seamanship Training School, Port Harcourt, while other professional courses would continue at Apapa.

CSO: 3400/145

NIGERIA

CONCORD EDITOR BECOMES CHIEF PRESS SECRETARY

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 26 Sep 85 p 9

Text A veteran journalist, Chief Duro Onabule has been named the new Chief Press Secretary to the president.

Minister of information and Culture, Lieutenant-Colonel Anthony Ukpo, announced this in a statement in Lagos on Tuesday. He said the appointment took immediate effect.

Chief Onabule, aged 44, was until his new appointment, the Editor of National Concord.

A diploma graduate of journalism from the College of Journalism London, he began his journalistic career with the defunct DAILY EXPRESS in 1961.

He had also worked on a number of Nigerian dailies, including DAILY TIMES and DAILY SKETCH.

A traditional chief of Ijebuland, Chief Onabule is an active member of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ).

He is married with children.

CSO: 3400/146

NIGERIA

DOGONYARO SAYS RELEASED POLITICAL DETAINEES TO BE MONITORED

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 19 Sep 85 p 15

[Text]

THE General Officer Commanding GOC 3 Armoured Division of the Nigerian Army, Brigadier Joshua Dogonyaro, has spoken of the need to monitor the activities of released political detainees.

He told the Bauchi State governor, Lt. Col. Chris Garuba when he called on him at the government house on Monday, that he should as much as possible discourage unnecessary jubilation and utterances from such released detainees which he said could jeopardize the much desired peace.

"We need peace at this time," Brigadier Dogonyaro said, and warned that anything which could disrupt the peace of the country should be nipped in the bud.

The GOC said he hoped that with his experience, the governor would handle the affairs of the state, in accordance with the policies of the Federal Military Government.

Responding, Lt. Col. Chris Garuba assured the GOC that he would continue to foster cordial relationship already existing between the army and the civilians.

CSO: 3400/106

NIGERIA

BABANGIDA ORDERS STRICTER SCREENING OF EXPATRIATE QUOTA

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 25 Sep 85 p 16

Article by Nkem Agetua

Text

PRESIDENT Ibrahim Babangida has directed that applications for expatriate quota be strictly screened to ensure that no expatriate was employed at the expense of qualified Nigerians.

Major-General Babangida told a delegation of the Nigeria Labour Congress at Dodan Barracks, Lagos on Monday that the government would provide a list of exclusive posts for Nigerians.

He said the federal government would also ensure strict compliance with agreements which provided for training of Nigerians for eventual take over of jobs from expatriates.

President Babangida assured that there would be constant monitoring of the private sector to ensure that there was no abuse

in expatriate employment practice.

He added that the penalty for any breach in the expatriate quota employment was going to be strictly enforced.

General Babangida said the government was determined to streamline the procedure for investments to create an atmosphere that would be more conducive to creation of more jobs.

He said that job seekers with the necessary skills and capacity would be encouraged to set up businesses of their own.

General Babangida also said that opportunities for training and skill development would be offered to those without skills by intensifying the activities of existing vocational institutions.

CSO: 3400/142

NIGERIA

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER SAYS BORDERS TO REOPEN SOON

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 26 Sep 85 p 3

[Text]

NIGERIA'S land boundaries, which was closed in December 31, 1983 will be re-opened soon, the Minister of External Affairs, Professor Bolaji Akinyemi, has said.

He told heads of diplomatic missions and international organisations at a reception in Lagos yesterday "that the permanent closure of boundaries is not right".

The minister said if there were problems of security and smuggling which led to the closure of the boundaries, the solution was to solve these problems rather than a permanent closure of boundaries.

Professor Akinyemi explained to newsmen later that officials of countries which have common boundaries with the country and Nigeria would soon meet to work

out the logistics of reopening the boundaries.

He said this was because the issue was a multilateral one and that later, the president would declare the boundaries open.

The minister also told the diplomats "that the mass expulsion of illegal aliens was wrong and should not have taken place. It violated our tradition of tolerance and hospitality.

He said Nigeria would always seek to resolve whatever differences of opinion existed.

Professor Akinyemi said Nigeria would do its best to facilitate their work within the resources available to it.

"Mr. President has already indicated that priority is to be given to creating an atmosphere conducive to investments and creating job opportunities," he said.

CSO: 3400/143

NIGERIA

MASSIVE INFLUX EXPECTED WITH ECOWAS FREE MOVEMENT PROTOCOL

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 18 Sep 85 pp 1,3

[Article by Omafume Amurun]

[Text]

NIGERIA could not cope with the anticipated influx of about five million people into the country when the phase two of the ECOWAS protocol on free movement comes into effect next May.

An Assistant Director of Immigration for ECOWAS Affairs, Mr. S.A. Dange told the Minister of Internal Affairs, Lt. Col. John Shagaya while on familiarization tour that though his department was preparing for the anticipated influx they were understaffed and lacked necessary equipment.

He said it seemed there was no going back on the issue because Nigeria was morally bound to adhere to the phase two of the ECOWAS protocol on free movement of people.

This protocol was to be implemented in May this year but had to be delayed for one year at the request of Nigeria to allow it make ade-

quate preparations.

The first phase of the ECOWAS protocol on free movement citizens to live in any of the member countries for a period of not more than 90 days, while the phase two permits them to reside and work as long as they please.

Addressing heads of departments later, Minister of Internal Affairs, Lt.-Col. John Shagaya urged them to monitor effectively activities of foreigners amongst them.

He told them to look into the issuance of expatriate quota and business permit to harmonise with the overall development process of the Nigerian economy.

This is necessary, the minister said, because of the present abuse in the employment of aliens in the country.

Lt.-Col. Shagaya said in pro-

cessing application for quota, stringent measures should be taken to ensure that Nigeria's interest was safeguarded and that only justified cases were approved.

He said the views of the unions in the various companies would also be taken into account before final approval was given for quota positions while chief executives of companies would have to justify their request.

According to him, the Federal Government would leave no stone unturned to ensure that the security of everybody within the country was guaranteed.

He said the government would embark on more effective immigration control to ensure that no undesirable elements were allowed into the country.

On the national identity card project, the minister said the Federal Government would give utmost attention to this project to ensure that the scheme took off as planned.

CSO: 3400/106

NIGERIA

TIMES INVESTIGATION REVEALS SERIOUS BRAIN DRAIN

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 20 Sep 85 p 24

[Article by Femi Ajayi]

[Text] Some Nigerian technologists and scientists are leaving the country in large numbers to seek employment in technologically advanced countries.

Investigations showed that engineers in nuclear, aeronautical, and automobile engineering; geophysicists and material scientists are the most involved in the mass movement of Nigerian intellectuals to overseas countries.

In an exclusive interview with the Daily Times, the secretary-general of the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE), Professor R. I. Salawu, associated the development with the lack of relevant employment opportunities in the country.

He said: "What is the business of a nuclear engineer in a country that has not gone nuclear?"

He said that nuclear engineering was introduced in some Nigerian Universities in the middle of the seventies when Nigeria thought of building nuclear reactors as a first step to going nuclear. The plan, he said, was phased out for undisclosed reasons.

According to Professor Salawu, the delay in the nuclear programme, was due to lack of a blueprint for development.

Successive governments, he said, had always been in a hurry to cancel the programmes of preceding governments while rushing into new ones without prior feasibility studies.

Professor Salawu explained that a blueprint for development could spell out technological goals which successive governments, military or civilian, would follow. He said "only the ardent patriots can be expected to stay around when relevant job opportunities do not exist".

The Nigerian economy of today is mainly distributive, with little or no emphasis on manufacturing so that most people trained in actual production may not fit in, he added.

Professor Salawu said the brain drain that accompanies the mass exit of highly educated Nigerians would have serious effects on the technological development of the country.

Many of the unemployed graduates interviewed said that they were quietly looking for ways of getting out of the country.

A foreign university graduate of material science, Mr. Kingsley Obiorah, said that he was desperate to get out of the country after being jobless for the past three years. Mr. Obiorah said he came to Nigeria after his master's degree thinking his qualifications would assure him of a place in the labour sector.

Asked why he did not try self-employment, he shot back saying: "Where is the money to start? Do you think self-employment is as easy as it sounds?" He added that he must find his way out of the country as he was not interested in any job that would not tap his specialist knowledge in material science.

Another interviewed graduate in Geophysics currently teaching mathematics in a secondary school, Mr. Tunde Ojo lamented: "I went to the university to study geophysics and not how to teach mathematics". His two regrets, he said, are that he could not get his message across to his students, and never sure of when to expect the next salary. Mr. Ojo said that he had no job satisfaction and hence wants to get out of the country as fast as possible.

Daily Times investigations revealed that only one out of every four engineers and scientists in Nigeria are properly utilised by the private and public sectors, while others are unemployed.

CSO: 3400/106

NIGERIA

FMG SETS UP PANEL TO DEBATE IMF LOAN

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 18 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Article by Nkem Agetua]

[Text] The Federal Military Government has set up a nine-member special committee to determine the merits and the demerits of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan for the country.

The committee which has Alhaji Abubakar Abdulkadir, Managing Director of Nigeria Industrial Development Bank (NIDB) as chairman, has a four-point terms of reference.

They include the organisation of public debate on radio and television and stimulating the publication of informed articles in newspapers on the following related fields:

- * Merits and demerits of an IMF loan in Nigeria's present economic situation having regard to the quantum of funds.
- * Anticipated impact of the adoption of the fund's adjustment programme on Nigeria's economy, and
- * Implications for trade arrears refinancing and debt rescheduling.

Public debates would also focus attention on negotiations on refinancing Nigeria's accumulated trade arrears and the attitude of the Export Credit Guarantee Department (ECGD) and the Paris Club to IMF programme for Nigeria.

The committee was also asked to assemble and evaluate various shades of opinion expressed on the above issues and gather data and opinion on the credit position of Nigeria and formulate strategies for substantially reducing debt-service burden.

As a result of its findings in the above terms, the committee was asked to explore possible alternatives and suggest policy options in order of preference.

The committee is expected to submit an interim report two months after the date of its first meeting and further reports at intervals of two months as necessary.

Other members of the committee are Ambassador Peter Afolabi of the Nigerian Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS), Jos Ambassador Olu Adesola (retired), Mr Wole Adeosun, Managing Director, Nigeria Acceptances Limited (NAL), Dr W. Obi of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka and Mr O. Essien, Economic Editor Guardian Newspapers.

Others members include Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance, Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, while Mr R.N. Ezeife, Assistant Director, Federal Ministry of Finance is to serve as the committee's Secretary.

A Cabinet Office statement in Lagos yesterday said that the setting up of the committee followed the government's decision that the issue of Nigeria's application for IMF loan should be made a subject of national debate to enable the generality of the Nigerian public to be more fully aware of the pros and cons of an IMF programme.

CSO: 3400/102

NIGERIA

UKIWE CLARIFIES ROLE OF IMF PANEL

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 26 Sep 85 p 1

Text The presidential committee on the IMF has not taken over the role of the Federal Ministry of Finance.

The ministry remains the accredited government agency for negotiations with the IMF.

Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, Chief of General Staff, yesterday said: "Your responsibility is quite distinct from those of the Federal Ministry of Finance, which remains the accredited government agency for negotiations with the IMF."

He was clearing the air on the misinterpretation of the role of the committee by the foreign press.

Commodore Ukiwe told members of the committee while swearing them in, that negotiations with the IMF were still solely the responsibility of the Ministry of Finance.

He told the members that with the interest nationally generated by the issue, the task facing them was enormous.

Explaining the committee's terms of reference, Commodore Ukiwe, said that it was their responsibility to stimulate enough debate to ensure that the Nigerian public was fully aware of the merits and demerits of the loan.

He said the committee would have to evaluate the various shades of opinions that would emerge on the issue bearing in mind the overall interest of the country.

Commodore Ukiwe said that the committee would be expected to advise government on the appropriate course of action to "achieve a meaningful restructuring and revamping of the economy for a sustained economic growth in the medium term."

He urged the committee members to be ready to suggest possible options or alternative solutions to Nigeria's present economic problems.

CSO: 3400/146

NIGERIA

STOCK EXCHANGE, BANKS VIEWED AS IMF ALTERNATIVE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 25 Sep 85 p 11

Article by Daniel Tifato

Text

THE Nigerian Stock Exchange and its leading stockbroking firms and merchant banks could assist in raising adequate capital locally for both the private and public sectors instead of taking the International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan.

Making the suggestion, Mr. S.B. Olayemi, Manager, Capital Trust Brokers Limited, Kaduna, said that the federal and state governments and limited liability companies could float either development or debenture stocks to generate fund for development and expansion programmes.

Although the fund could be raised "locally through loan syndication without going for off shore lending", Mr. Olayemi said that a lot more fund could be generated through privatisation of states and federal government parastatals.

He was of the view that better exploitation of local financing resources is preferable "because once the fund required for most internal development programmes can be generated locally, we would have more time to concentrate desirable proportion of our oil earnings on repayments of foreign debt which will lead to a proper take off of our economic independence."

He said that Nigeria would be sacrificing its hard won independence if it went ahead to accept the International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan.

Mr. S.B. Olayemi, is convinced that if Nigeria accepted the loan,

it stood" to become poorer since we have only one export product being crude oil which is facing multiple competition in the market."

As a condition for the loan, he said, we would have to supply more quantity of our oil in return for reduced import as a result of reduction in the purchasing power of our export.

He also said trade liberalisation would turn our market into a dumping ground and" our struggling indigenous industries will be strangulated."

Mr. Olayemi said that such a situation became inevitable because foreign advanced technology has been able to develop machines and synthetic inputs that facilitated mass production with improved quality but at highly reduced unit price. If our doors were opened to multi-national products, he added, the local ones would die naturally.

He said if the subsidy on petroleum was withdrawn, the populace would hate it because the cost of fuel and transportation would rise in the short run but added that on the long run, the Federal Government would be able to get more revenue which if used judiciously, could provide basic social amenities.

The manager warned that views expressed in favour of accepting the loan by some "few eminent Nigerians employed by multi-national companies should not be taken seriously because they were just attempts to safeguard their personal interest."

"If the issue is seen through the mirror of micro-economics, acceptance of the loan may look alright, but if you reflect on Nigerian case study, you may find that rejection of the offer is presently more advantageous", he explained.

CSO: 3400/142

NIGERIA

LABOR CONGRESS PROMISES STRIKE IF IMF LOAN APPROVED

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 24 Sep 85 p 1

Text The Nigerian Labour Congress has told president Ibrahim Babangida that workers would go on strike if Nigeria takes the IMF loan.

At the State House yesterday, four NLC officials, led by its president, Malam Ali Chiroma presented a four-point demand to the President.

- That the IMF loan should not be taken with the conditionalities attached to it.
- That the Federal Government should look into the imposition of various cuts on wages, salaries, fringe benefits.
- Reduction of fees in schools and hospitals;
- and removal of wage freeze.

Contending that the NLC had been alienated by government for long, Malam Chiroma urged President Babangida to allow the congress have frequent dialogue with government.

Answering questions from State House correspondents, Malam Chiroma disagreed that the NLC was trying to blackmail the government over the IMF loan by threatening to call its members out on strike.

He argued: "The NLC has a right to take any step on which it feels necessary to protect the interest of Nigerian workers.

It is not the intention of the NLC, which is a responsible organisation, to blackmail any government; we have never done that before.

"What we want to put across is that whatever we do is in the interest of the country."

"He said the NLC had made up its mind on the issue of the IMF loan and had concluded that Nigeria should not take it under the present conditionalities; Malam Chiroma said that the finance of the NLC was in a "precarious situation."

CSO: 3400/145

NIGERIA

BABANGIDA ASKS LABOR NOT TO PUSH FOR WAGE INCREASE

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 24 Sep 85 p 1

Text Although, the temptation may be strong, the labour movement should not put its emphasis on demanding higher wages, the NLC was told yesterday.

The President said that in the developing world, Nigerians put in the least of number of hours a week at work.

International Labour Organisation (ILO) figures show that the average hours of work in a week in Egypt is 56, South Korea 54, Malasia 52, Singapore 49, Mexico 46, Venezuela 45, whereas Nigerians work only an average of 40 hours a week."

President Babangida noted that despite this, average wages tell a different story.

"To take just one example, the Egyptians work for 56 hours a week, earns N9 per week in the manufacturing sector, and N15 per week in the mining sector.

"Nigerian counterpart who works for 40 hours per week earns N30 per week in the manufacturing sector and N17.60k per week in the mining sector.

In other words, we work the least number of hours per week, our productivity is the lowest, our labour cost and salaries comparatively high of all the countries in the developing world."

CSO: 3400/145

NIGERIA

IMF ISSUES TO BE TRANSLATED INTO MAIN NATIVE LANGUAGES

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 26 Sep 85 p 1

Text The terms and other related issues involved in the IMF loan is to be translated into Nigeria's main languages.

This is to enable Nigerians at the grassroots to know what the matter is about.

The chairman of the presidential committee on the loan, Alhaji Abubakar Abdulkadir, told State House correspondents yesterday that the elites would not be able to monopolise the debate if the masses also understood the issues at stake.

He said when every one understood the issues involved in the loan, it would be easy for people at the grassroots to contribute effectively to the debate.

Alhaji Abdulkadir said that at the moment he sees his main job as the ability to get information across to all Nigerians to facilitate their understanding of the IMF conditionalities and other related matters.

Earlier, Alhaji Abubakar after being sworn in with other members of the committee said what ever opinion each of them had before being appointed would not becloud the mass decisions of Nigerians.

He noted that never in the history of Nigeria had people been so sharply divided on a sophisticated matter as the IMF loan.

"Yet we also venture to say that never in the history of this country have the people been so united in their determination to solve the economic impact of the country although opinions on the modalities are as divergent as the colours of the rainbow," he said.

Alhaji Abdulkadir, said his committee would seek all relevant information on the IMF loan and feed them back to all Nigerians to help them articulate in more concrete terms, on the ongoing discussions.

He appealed to the federal and state governments officials not to starve the committee of the required information which is not prejudicial to the security of the state.

CSO: 3400/146

NIGERIA

RSA INVASION OF ANGOLA CONDEMNED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 19 Sep 85 p 16

[Text]

NIGERIA has condemned in strong terms the invasion of southern Angola by South Africa and was prepared to send delegation to the frontline states.

The Minister of External Affairs, Professor Bolaji Akinyemi, on Tuesday invited the Angola Charge D'Affairs in Nigeria, Mr. Jose Augusto Prata to inform him that President Ibrahim Babangida was disturbed over the current development in Angola.

He asked Mr. Augusto to let the government know when Angola would be ready to receive the delegation which would be headed by the Minister of Special Duties, Air Vice-Marshal Ishaya Shekari.

South African troops crossed into Angola on Monday in further raid against nationalists fighting for independence of Namibia.

South African last incursion into Angola in pursuit of SWAPO fighters was in July. About 60 SWAPO fighters were said to have been killed in two days of fierce fights.

CSO: 3400/102

Professor Akinyemi said Nigeria was behind Angola in these trying times and that the latest South African invasion was illegal under international law.

He said the latest invasion could not save South Africa from the consequence of its ill-advised policy of apartheid domestically and aggression internationally.

Professor Akinyemi said the bankruptcy of the invasion was demonstrated by the fact that South Africa over the past ten years had repeatedly invaded Angola using the same excuse everytime, but their objectives remain unachieved.

NIGERIA

UNDER COUNTERTRADE, OIL SHIPMENTS TO BRAZIL RESUME

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 24 Sep 85 p 24

Text

UNDER the 914 million Naira counter-trade between Nigeria and Brazil, lifting of Nigeria's crude oil to Brazil is to increase from the current 50,000 barrels to 90,000 barrels. Mr. Joseph Tutunda, an Executive Director of Cor-tia, Brazil's largest private enterprise, said in Lagos.

Mr. Tutunda said at a cocktail party in honour of a three-man trade mission currently on a week-long visit to Nigeria that with the amendment of the agreement, the daily liftings would amount to 20 per cent of total Brazilian oil imports, placing Nigeria among the largest oil suppliers to the Latin American country.

He said that under the original 449.8 million Naira agreement signed a year ago, the NNPC had increased its daily supplies from 10,000 barrels to 50,000 barrels pointing out that "not one drop of this oil has ended up on the spot market".

The director said that in return, Brazil had supplied raw

materials, manufactured goods and equipment to more than 200 Nigerian companies.

Mr. Tutunda further said that no "superfluous" goods had been exported to the country by Brazil, and noted that prices of Brazilian exports were "freely" negotiated with the Nigerian importers.

The director said that Nigeria and Brazil should not limit themselves to the counter-trade agreement between them, but must explore possible pacts with other developing countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia to stimulate regional co-operation.

Quoting the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), he said, "counter-trade currently accounts for more than 10 per cent of total world trade".

He forecast that the figure would rise to 45 per cent by 1988, with the greatest increase coming from the third world countries.

CSO: 3400/141

NIGERIA

NITEL BLAZES TRAIL IN ENERGY SEARCH

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 24 Sep 85 p 5

Article by Femi Ajayi

Text NITEL has organised a seminar for Nigerian scientists to deliberate on its proposed project to make use of solar energy for repeater stations. By this every act, NITEL is blazing a trail in the search for solutions to national problems, particularly in exploring a potentially inexpensive, untapped but important energy source for a specific purpose.

For this and many other issues NITEL deserves commendation for foresight and patriotism. These were the views of Mr D. E. Lyamabo, the coordinating director of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology.

Mr Lyamabo was not just being unnecessarily charitable to the NITEL, he mentioned many reasons while NITEL deserves this high commendation for her proposal.

The success of NITEL's proposal would mean considerable savings to the nation as revenue losses due to link failure, an aftermath of power shortage, would be averted. In addition, the venture would be a pointer to others in the public and private sectors, who would now realise that given the challenge and finance, Nigerian scientists and technologists can solve all Nigeria's problems.

If the programme hopefully leads to giving Nigerian scientists and technologists tasks in specific facets of NITEL's proposal, it would be a challenge to them on a specified national problem, a clean break from the usual syndrome of criticising scientists and technologists instead of trying them.

NITEL's recognition of the link between research and development on the one hand, and application on the other, is unique in Nigeria. That is especially so when the first step taken is to enlist the collaboration of indigenous scientists rather than taking a major decision on a gigantic project like this on the basis of popular opinion, guesses and generalised advise.

NITEL deserves a pat on the back for acknowledging the capability of Nigerian scientists and technologists instead of rushing abroad to seek foreign 'expert' advice with a view to buying finished products. NITEL's chosen course of action gives room for assessment of alternatives in terms of technology, initial capital and maintenance costs, as well as local technological capability to handle the project.

The fact that ultimate decision on the proposed used of solar energy for repeater stations would hopefully be based on or at least largely influenced by the facts and figures arrived at in the seminar means the involvement of local experts as early as possible in the programme. This approach has the advantage of leading to answers which will be based on experimental and reasoned facts specifically tailored to the needs of Nigeria.

With all the above points which Mr Lyamabo adequately marshalled out in the seminar one was convinced that he was not speaking for himself but speaking the minds of many scientifically conscious Nigerians.

Earlier in the seminar, the director of Research and Development of NITEL, Dr Bello E. Ojeba, while introducing distinguished guests, had spoken on the role of a research and development division in a telecommunication organisation in a developing country like Nigeria. He said that, among other things, a research and development division was necessary to avert the cost of wrong decisions in a capital intensive venture like setting up a telecommunication infrastructure.

Dr Ojeba said: "NITEL's research and development will not be involved in basic research as such, but will concentrate on finding solutions to identified operational equipment and systems problems." He emphasised the need to adapt research and development strategies in industrialised countries to make them meet distinctive needs of the developing world. He advocated making of simple equipments and spareparts, adding that, research and development geared to the needs of developing countries would be best undertaken by establishments in the developing world.

NITEL's approach to the viable project of tapping alternative sources of energy for better communication services demonstrated foresight; respect for analytical, scientific and reasoned judgment; and confidence in the Nigerians' ability to solve the problems of Nigeria, on the part of NITEL officials. It is a positive step in the right direction, a new trail in the search for solutions to national problems within Nigeria using Nigerians.

CSO: 3400/140

NIGERIA

DESPITE OIL, COUNTRY FACING ENERGY CRISIS

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 24 Sep 85 p 5

Article by Femi Ajayi

Text Nigeria is facing an energy crisis, so said the co-ordinating director of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology Mr D. E. Lyamabo. This, he said, is accompanied by another serious crisis, an environmental crisis. He added: "Because these crises are not dramatic, because we are able to live with them, today it appears they do not matter. This is unfortunate since we are merely pushing forward the evil day."

Mr Lyamabo was not being hysterical, he had good reasons for his assertions. The frequent failure of electricity supply from NEPA and the lack of fuel or engine oil to operate generators are eloquent testimonies to his views.

While he agreed that Nigeria's sources of energy are quite substantial, he explained that the pattern of exploitation of the sources of energy "leave room for considerable wastage, apparent disregard for conservation and inefficiency in energy use." All these inadequacies could exacerbate the energy crisis, especially when 'less than 5 percent of the energy generated by burning fuel wood and only about 5 percent of natural gas produced are used."

From the above, it is clear that the causes of energy crisis are: ever-increasing energy demands; wastage and lack of conservation of energy; and inefficiency in energy utilisation due to low level of technology.

National expenditure on energy, Mr Lyamabo said, continues to be colossal while inexpensive alternative energy resources remain underutilised or unutilised.

A statement asserting or predicting energy crisis may sound ironical and unbelievable in a country, like Nigeria, endowed with fossil (petroleum, gas and, coal) hydro (water), solar, wind, fuel, wood and geothermal sources of energy.

The reality, according to Mr. Lyamabo, is that fossil and hydro fuels, despite their popularity, account for only 15 percent and 10 percent respectively of total energy consumption while geothermal and wind energy sources are of relatively low order in Nigeria. Paradoxically, fuel wood, not recognised as an important source of energy, accounts for most of the remaining 75 percent of energy requirement.

The above analysis gives a graphic picture of the energy equation in the country, showing the problems associated with the energy crisis, the energy potentials, their underutilisation and misutilisation. The pertinent question is: In what ways can the energy crisis, the features of which are already visible in Nigeria, be averted?

Energy crisis can be averted by proper exploitation of the available alternative sources of energy, especially solar energy which "has considerable potentials but is largely unexploited in this country."

There is also need for fuel-wood stoves that would utilise more of the energy than the present inefficient technology that wastes 96 percent of the energy from fuel-wood source.

This is of utmost significance considering the fact that about 80 percent of the energy requirement of Nigeria's estimated 65 million rural dwellers comes from wood.

According to Mr Lyamabo, even in such urban areas as Lagos fuel wood and its bye product, charcoal, supply up to 40 percent of the total energy consumed.

Furthermore, the liquefied natural gas (NLG) project which would ensure optimum utilisation of natural gas should be pursued with the vigour it deserves so as to reduce the amount of gas wasted by flaring off.

The methods advocated for averting energy crisis are double-edged swords in the sense that they would go a long in averting environmental crisis if properly handled.

This is because exploitation of our solar energy resources and proper utilisation of fuel wood would mean less destruction of forests and savannah vegetation. It would also mean less cost in financial resources, noise nuisance and atmospheric pollution. All these add up to imply less environmental stress.

Mr Lyamabo's was a clarion call for energy conservation; proper energy utilisation, co-ordinated search for alternative sources of energy; advanced technology for energy exploitation; and sound management in order to avert both energy and environmental crises. We can only neglect his voice of reason to our peril.

CSO: 340/140

NIGERIA

NNPC NOW GUARANTEES PROFIT MARGIN FOR OIL FIRMS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 20 Sep 85 p 16

[Text] The Minister of Petroleum Resources, Prof Tam David-West, said on Wednesday in Lagos that the NNPC would as from now guarantee the 10 oil producing companies in the country a margin of two dollars per barrel as embodied in the corporation's price formula.

Speaking at a meeting with chief executives of the companies and the eight major oil marketing companies, the minister said that the posted price of the country's crude oil had equated itself with the OPEC official selling price.

OPEC had in January fixed the price of Nigeria's high grade Bonny light at 28.65 dollars per barrel, the official price of the British brent which competes with the Bonny light.

Prof David-West told the chief executives that it was gratifying that the world oil market was improving again after a three-year glut.

He said that although Nigeria would not violate OPEC's production ceilings, oil producing companies operating in Nigeria should "ensure that the country does not produce one barrel of oil less than her quota of 1.3 million barrels per day."

The minister announced the appointment of Mr Moshood Akanbi, Managing Director of the National Oil and Chemical Marketing Company, as chairman of a special committee charged with studying the issue of equitable prices for petroleum products in the riverine areas.

The committee is expected to submit its report within a month.

At another meeting, the minister told management staff of the NNPC that the Federal Military Government had accepted the splitting of the corporation into six semi-autonomous, self-accounting units.

He said that implementation committees for the reorganisation had been formed and that their members were drawn from the NNPC management. (NAN)

CSO: 3400/101

NIGERIA

DIVISIONAL BREAKUP OF NNPC ANNOUNCED

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 19 Sep 85 p 13

[Text] The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, NNPC, will soon "be split into six sections" made up of oil and gas; refineries; petrochemicals; petroleum products and marketing; administration and finance and the inspectorate sections.

This was made known in Lagos by the Petroleum Resources Minister, Professor Tam David-West, when he held his first meeting since his re-appointment with the management of the corporation.

He said: "With the formation of implementation committees, membership of which were drawn from the NNPC management, the reorganisation of the nation's oil industry has crossed the rubicon."

Professor David-West advised those who will administer the various new sections to be prepared to move their operational bases from Lagos so as to achieve one of the cardinal objectives of the exercise, which is the decogestion of Lagos.

He also requested the various committees appointed in the last administration to submit their progress reports within one week, failing which the concerned committees would be dissolved.

The minister implored the staff of the corporation to work as a team at all times, "for the corporate good of the organisation," adding that he would continue "to operate a completely open system."

He declared: "All of us will one day leave this place for one reason or the other, but the institution will remain."

Speaking on behalf of the management, the managing director of the NNPC, Mr Festus Marinho thanked the minister for his "forthrightness" and called on his staff to rededicate themselves for the greater task ahead.

CSO: 3400/101

NIGERIA

DAVID-WEST CALLS FOR PRIVATE INDUSTRY TO ABSORB PETROCHEMICAL PRODUCTS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 20 Sep 85 p 7

[Text] The Minister of Petroleum Resources, Prof Tam David-West on Monday in Aba, called on the organized private sector to establish industries which would absorb the products of the proposed petrochemicals plant.

Addressing a seminar on "Downstream industries in Nigeria's petrochemical products," Prof David-West said that the products of the plants would have to be exported if there were no such industries.

The minister noted, however, that the prospects for any export-oriented petrochemical industry were not bright because of the trade barriers imposed by trading blocks like E.E.C., COMECON and ASEAN.

He said that unlike the manufacture of basic petrochemicals, the downstream stage represented simpler technologies which could be acquired through intensive training of technicians.

He said that to encourage the establishment of such industries government would provide the necessary infrastructure, adding that the NNPC would support applications for licences to import mechanical equipment.

Prof David-West disclosed that the NNPC had established a public enlightenment committee which in conjunction with its petrochemicals division would provide detailed information on investment opportunities in Nigeria's petrochemical industry.

The address was read on his behalf by Dr T.M. John, Manager, Petrochemicals in the NNPC.

In his address, Mr Eqwuonwu Kalu, president of the Aba Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture, organizers of the seminar, identified shortage of industrial raw material as the greatest barrier against Nigeria's economic recovery.

CSO: 3400/101

NIGERIA

GULF DISCOVERS NEW OIL FIELD

Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 23 Sep 85 p 24

[Text]

GULF Oil Company (Nigeria) Limited has discovered a new oil field in its Escravos operations close to Warri. The field, which is situated to the southwest of the company's existing West Isan field in its Oil Mining Lease (OML) 95 concession, lies in 12 metres of water depth nine kilometres offshore.

Announcing the new find recently, Mr. Wole Ariyo, Gulf's exploration manager, said results from Mina-IX, the discovery well drilled in the field, indicate the existence of high quality crude in the area.

Oil was found in ten reservoirs; tests carried out on five of them showed a combined flow rate of 8,735 barrels per day. A sixth zone, tested also gave

encouraging results.

The well was drilled between April 22 and June 10 this year to a depth of 3,358 metres; it was suspended on July 5 after testing. Appraisal drilling to determine the extent of the field is programmed to be carried out in the last quarter of this year.

Mr. Ariyo pointed out in his announcement that the new find differs from previous discoveries in the area in that it is located in a complex stratigraphic trap system rather than what he referred to as the roll-over anticlinal type for which the Niger Delta is well known.

It therefore marks, for Gulf in Nigeria, the beginning of a new era in finding oil in what is commonly referred to as subtle oil traps, while opening up possibilities for developing a fairly large field for the Gulf/NNPC partnership and, of course, for Nigeria.

CSO: 3400/101

NIGERIA

OIL SPILLAGES

Spillage Reported in Bendel State

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 20 Sep 85 p 1

[Article by Vincent Ogbunisi]

[Text]

ANOTHER oil spillage has occurred in the country, injuring a primary school girl, and damaging food crops and fish ponds estimated to cost N1.5 million.

The spillage took place at Owerri-Agbarha in Ughelli Local Government Area of Bendel State.

According to sources, the oil spilled from the Erima Station of the Shell Petroleum Corporation into the hinterland, contaminating rivers and fish ponds as well as destroying farmlands.

The sources said that a nine-year-old primary school girl, Miss Love Olomurhire, who allegedly took bath with the contaminated water, caught fire and sustained severe burns.

The father of the girl who confirmed the tragedy, explained that after the bath, she went to a fire-side to warm herself, but suddenly caught fire and was rushed to Kowa Clinic in Ughelli, where she is currently receiving treatment.

The medical director of the hospital, Dr S.U. Odjoh, described the fire incident as, "full darkness burns of 15 per cent body area", but noted that

the victim was responding to treatment.

Speaking on behalf of the community, the secretary of the town's union, Chief A.P. Emunotor, lamented that the community's farms, covering about 250 acres of cultivated cassava and yams farms, fishing ponds, and cash crops estimated to cost N1.5 million, have been damaged.

Chief Emunotor added that the people were now living in fear of impending famine.

He said that the Shell Development Company had inspected the affected areas, but regretted that it has done nothing by way of aid to the inhabitants.

None of the officials of the company contacted agreed to talk on the issue.

It would be recalled that in January 1980, Texaco off-shore oil rig exploded and several barrels of oil gushed into the sea and penetrated into the hinterland, destroying food crops and endangering lives.

Since then, the coastal communities in Niger Delta have been witnessing series of oil spillage.

Spillage Reported in Kaduna State

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 18 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

THE Petroleum Resources Minister, Professor Tam David-West arrived Kaduna State on Monday amidst growing anxiety over reported cases of oil leakage in the Kachia Local Government area of the state.

Speculations were rife around NNPC circles on Monday that the minister's visit had to do with leakages of crude oil into River Romi which passes behind the Kaduna Refinery.

Investigations at the weekend revealed that, so far, as many as five villages where River Romi passes through

have been affected by the spillage.

A farmer at Kachia who pleaded not to be quoted told the Daily Times that NNPC officials had promised them that any damages to their crops would be adequately compensated.

Other farmers spoke of oily and greasy layers of substances being noticed on the river and its banks, but refused to say whether or not it was crude oil.

This is the first time an oil leakage would be reported in the northern part of the country.

CSO: 3400/103

NIGERIA

ANNUAL INFLATION DECLINES TO 24 PERCENT

Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 23 Sep 85 p 1

[Article by: Ngozi Ikeano]

[Text] An analysis of the composite consumer price index for the first half of 1985 show that the rate of inflation went down by about 12.9 per cent against the rate as at December, last year.

The inflation rate for last year was 39.6 per cent. However, as latest figures from the Federal Office of Statistics show, the inflation rate as at June, 1985 stood at 24 percent.

This represented a decline of 3.8 per cent compared to the rate in the preceding month which was 27.8 per cent.

The inflation rate has been witnessing a slow but steady decline since the beginning of this year, compared to what obtained in December 1984, the drop being from 36.9 per cent as at the end of last year to 24 per cent as at June, 1985.

This gives an average monthly decline of 2.15 per cent during the period.

The drop in the inflation rate is attributable to among other things the early issuance of 1985 import licenses.

However, some industry barons opine that we shall begin to feel the pinch of the foreign exchange crunch by the last quarter of the year when industrialists are expected to exhaust their import license allocation.

The composite consumer price index itself for June 1985 stood at 492.2 per cent. The effect of increases in the prices of fresh beef, fish, fowl, eggs, plantain and household goods was considerably reduced by decreases in the prices of sugar, cooking salt, baby food and drinks.

However, the composite price index for June 1985 was higher than the corresponding index for last year by 3.7 per cent.

Similar comparisons show that the Urban and Rural index increased by 5.6 per cent and 3.5 per cent respectively during the period.

The composite food index for June, 1985, registered an increase of 0.4 per cent following increases in the prices of plantain, eggs, fowl, fish and fresh beef.

The index of household goods and other purchases advanced by 2.4 per cent because of increases in the prices of toothpaste, disinfectants and medicaments.

● INFLATION RATE AS AT

December	1983	23.0 per cent
December	1984	36.9 per cent
January	1985	37.9 per cent
February	1985	36.6 per cent
March	1985	34.9 per cent
April	1985	32.0 per cent
May	1985	27.8 per cent
June	1985	24.0 per cent

● Compiled by Business Times

CSO: 3400/107

NIGERIA

PLANNING MINISTER LISTS ECONOMIC STABILIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 27 Sep 85 p 3

[Text]

THE National Planning Minister, Dr. Okongwu in Lagos, said that a good stabilisation package for the Nigerian economy should include desirable reforms in its monetary affairs.

The reforms, he said, should not be limited to currency and exchange rate adjustments, but must, include as well, a better balancing of public sector accounts, increased use of cheques and efficiency in the progressive monetization of the economy.

Contributing to the seminar on "Nigeria's economic recovery", the minister said that getting specialised banking and public institutions to patronise the domestic capital market, permeation of banking practices into the rural areas, as well as changes in the legal foundations of monetary organisation to redirect the flows of investible funds, must all be part of the package.

According to the minister, the basic goal of such reforms is to help restore sensible domestic price relations and make the economy more competitive.

It would also eliminate the backward effects of an underdeveloped financial system on growth.

Another necessary factor for stabilisation he said was the "genuine and rapid internalisation" of the oil sector of the economy. This should enable the economy to achieve more rapid scientific-technological progress, maximise the gains from the export trade and diversify production.

A mechanism which would ensure more stable finances so as to afford the planner at any level of government, some degree of certainty, adequacy and timeliness of resources must also be included, the minister further said.

Social stability, though is not a guarantee of stable economic progress, was nonetheless an "indispensable requirement" for a stable economy, Dr. Okongwu

said.

Taking into account the present fragile consumption level and the reliance on imports for food, spare parts, basic raw materials and machineries, Dr. Okongwu said there was need to provide for reserve stocks of basic supplies.

This, he said, was to allow the economy to concentrate on the task of development.

Nigeria's present economic condition, stressed the minister, "calls for the total mobilisation of human and material resources to achieve the correct restructuring of the economy."

The speed and character of recovery, he said, will depend on the commitment of Nigerians and the goodwill of its genuine external friends, to fight the implied economic war through increased investment and production, as well as willingness by Nigerians to sacrifice and look far more inwards than ever before in seeking solutions to the country's problems.

CSO: 3400/143

NIGERIA

UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES

Unemployment Reduced in Rural Areas

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 27 Sep 85 p 13

Article by Suleiman Dangana

Text

A NATIONAL labour survey released by the Federal Ministry of Labour has shown that farming has reduced the number of unemployed persons in the rural areas of the country.

Briefing the Minister of Labour, Rear Admiral Patrick Koshoni in Lagos on Wednesday, the Assistant Chief Labour Officer (Statistics) Alhaji L. A. Fusasi, said available statistics indicated that there has been a decrease from 4.6 in 1984 to 3.0 per cent in 1985, the number of unemployed persons in rural areas.

He told the minister that the improvement in the rain fall in various parts of the country made the unemployed persons took to farming in rural areas.

He, however, said that the number of unemployed in urban towns was on the increase.

The chief labour officer said statistics has shown that the unemployed persons in urban cities rose from 7.8 in 1984 to 9.7 per cent in 1985, an increase of 2 per cent, he added.

Earlier, the Minister of labour has directed the officials of the Trade Testing Centre in Lagos to work out a new method of assessing candidates.

He said it was unfair for the fortune of candidates to be determined by one examiner alone.

The minister said the practice whereby one examiner assess candidates could be abused.

Rear Admiral Koshoni also directed the training centre to ensure that training programmes cover how candidates could go on self-employ.

He commended workers for striving hard in the area of self employ.

At the National Productivity Centre, the minister was told to ensure that each state in the federation gets productivity centre.

Only productivity committees exist in states as at now.

The existence of productivity centres in states, the minister was further told, would check factories productivity.

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 26 Sep 85 p 12

Text Unemployment rate in the country's urban areas has been risen from 7.3 percent in 1983 to 9.7 percent at June the Minister of Employment, Labour and Productivity, Rear Admiral Patrick Koshoni, was told yesterday in Lagos.

Briefing the minister which was continuing a tour of establishments under his Portfolio, Officials of the Federal Statistics Department said, however, that the unemployment rate in the rural areas dropped from 4.6 percent in 1984 to 3 percent in June this year.

Rear Admiral Koshoni, who later visited the Federal Manpower Training Centre at Surulere, directed that the leasehold on its office block should not be renewed.

CSO: 3400/144

NIGERIA

JOB REDUNDANCIES ANNOUNCED IN NIGER STATE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 20 Sep 85 p 16

[Article by: Olu Omole]

[Text] At least 904 workers of the Niger State Ministry of Works, Housing and Environment were on Wednesday either given letters of dismissal or termination.

Sources close to the ministry told the New Nigerian that the affected workers included an area engineer, a chief yard superintendent, a yard superintendant, mechanics, technical officers of various grades and messengers.

The source further said the retrenchment was a "carryover" of previous directives on retrenchment.

The letters were signed by the Secretary of the State Civil Service Commission, Mr. S.I. Doko were dated September 9, 1985.

One of the letters with reference C.S. C/3/378 read in part: "I am directed to inform you that as a result of restructuring of the state civil service the report of which was approved by the state executive council, your appointment has been terminated with effect from 10th September 1985.

"Your one month salary in lieu of notice would be worked out and paid to you in due course after deducting any outstanding debts owed to the government."

Acting Permanent Secretary of the ministry, Malam Shehu Ahmed, said he would not say more on the matter because he had spoken to the NTA and Radio Niger.

CSO: 3400/108

NIGERIA

FROM URALMASH TO AJAOKUTA: STEEL FACTORY PROGRESS

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 19 Sep 85 p 5

[Article by: Uri Cron]

[Excerpts] **S**HIPS flying the Soviet flag have frequented the port city of Warri in the past few years. Sea-going vessels bring equipment for the Ajakuta Steel Complex to be the biggest iron and steel works in Tropical Africa, which is under construction in Nigeria with Soviet assistance. Port cranes unload many-tonne crates with blast furnace and converter equipment, units and mechanisms for rolling mills, sintering machines and various units for primary processing of iron ore. Many people do not know where all these equipment come from for the giant steel mills in Ajakuta.

The city of Sverdlovsk, a large industrial city of the Soviet Union is located many thousand kilometres away from Nigeria, among the forest-covered Ural mountains which divide Europe and Asia. The Ural Heavy Engineering Works or Uralmash as it is known in the Soviet Union, has been operating there for over 50 years.

Uralmash is not an ordinary plant: it fathered almost all iron and steel mills in the USSR. Apart from metallurgical units, it puts out unique press-forging and other equipment for heavy engineering enterprises, walking and opencast excavators and various types of drilling rigs.

The Bhilai and Bokaro steel works of India are, known today throughout the world', says Yevgeni Varnachev. Complete shops for them were made at the Uralmash plant. India's first heavy machine-building plant to produce its

own metallurgical equipment was built at Ranchi on the basis of technology worked out by the Urals plant and with its assistance.

It is noteworthy that all steel plants built in India with Soviet assistance have become a good production base not only for training Indian engineers and skilled metal-makers. Today, future metallurgists from many developing countries, including those from Nigeria, learn there to make steel.

Apart from India, blast furnace, rolling and sintering equipment made at the Uralmash plant are successfully operating at the metallurgical centres in

El-Hajar (Algeria), Helwan (Egypt), Isfahan (Iran), Iskenderun (Turkey) the steel plant in Karachi, Pakistan. In addition to metallurgical complexes, the Uralmash plant supplies the developing countries with opencast colliery excavators, ore rock crushers, drilling complexes which have for a number of years made a good showing in Guinea, Bangladesh, Zambia, Iraq, Mali, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Libya, Syria and many other countries.

"We are fulfilling today the biggest order for Nigeria," says the plant's director. The metallurgical complex in Ajakuta, now under construction, has already received our

equipment for a sintering machine and blast furnace with a capacity of 200 cu.m. After the technology worked out by the scientists of the Uralmash plant, our neighbour — the Yuzhnouralsk heavy machine-building plant —

has made and delivered to Ajakuta the most up-to-date model of a continuous-steel-pouring machine.

The assembly shop of the Uralmash plant is now making preparations for dispatching the cast consignment of units and mechanisms for the rolling mill '700' which will produce rolled stock much needed for the construction of dwellings and blocks of new plants, motor and railway bridges. It may be recalled that the two rolling

The USSR has delivered to Ajaokuta, just like to Finland, the latest model of the machine for continuous casting of billets. The idea of developing such a machine originated at the Uralmash plant. At the same time experts from the Swiss Concast and West German Demang companies worked on its design.

The Soviet Union has scored its successes in the development of metallurgy as well as in other economic branches. Thanks to the selfless work of Soviet people. And naturally, celebrated Uralmash plant has greatly contributed to this. It is celebrated because of its tremendous efforts and the plant has been awarded ten Soviet and foreign orders. A few years ago the plant was awarded Golden Mercury — the highest international prize for major contribution to economic co-operation.

CSO: 3400/108

NIGERIA

RAILWAY CORPORATION LOSING OUT TO PRIVATE TRANSPORTERS

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 20 Sep 85 p 24

[Article by: Funmi Jolaosho]

[Text] The Nigerian Railway Corporation lost about ₦15 million to private transporters between 1982 and 1984.

Sources at the corporation attributed the loss to lack of attention for the corporation by successive governments and shortage of spare parts.

According to our source, the drop in revenue from freight between 1982 and 1984 was due mainly to non-participation of Railways in the transportation of Presidential task force on rice to parts of the country. "Not a single tonne of rice was conveyed by Railways," the source added.

The Central Bank had in its 1984 report on low revenue from freight services stated that "rail haulage has tended to become less important as a means of evacuating export produce to ports because of the expansion in the road network in recent years."

According to the 1983 revenue and capital estimates of the Federal Government, Nigeria Railways had a budget of ₦146,450 million while Federal highways had ₦860,150 million.

Confirming the decline, in revenue the N.R.C. chief public relations officer, Mr. Idress Abdul-Azeez said that the corporation received its major supply of spare parts last in 1976. He said there was however a slight supply between 1979 and 1982. "This was because supply of spare parts was part of the corporation's contract with the Railway Indian Transport Economic Services."

Mr. Azeez however, said that the corporation now manufactures 20 to 30 per cent of spare parts on diesel locomotive engines and 50 per cent of parts requirement for wagons and coaches.

Also commenting on the corporation's loss of revenue, the national president of the Nigerian Union of Railwaymen, Mr. Godwin Omoruyi-Ero said that only revenue from freight can sustain the corporation. He said that the

corporation needed the services of technocrats on its management to make it profitable.

Contacted on the issue, the general secretary of the Transport Owners Association, Alhaji Aliu Ahmed, denied that his association deprived the Railways of its earnings. "Is it our fault if the railway lines do not extend to the steel complexes?" he asked.

CSO: 3400/107

NIGERIA

GOVERNMENT LOSES MILLIONS ON PORT DELAYS

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 27 Sep 85 pp 1, 13

Article by Martins Nwanne: "FG Loses Millions on Demurrage"

Text The Federal Government has lost millions of naira and will continue to lose more through avoidable payments of demurrage on chartered vessels which bring essential commodities, particularly rice, into the country.

The avoidable payments are occasioned by long delays in discharging the goods and the indiscriminate stealing and pilfering of the scarce commodities at the ports.

Several ship's officers and oil marketing officials said "there are too many unnecessary hands involved in the discharge of goods and bunkering of vessels."

Speaking to the Daily Times, the chief officers of M.V. Akbar, M.V. Lorenzo, M.V. Alikrator and a shipping agent said long delays in discharging imports, particularly those brought into the country by chartered vessels, "is a big drain in your country's lean foreign exchange and it is unfortunate because your country can least afford waste now."

The chief officers said the involvement of ministries, the NNSL, clearing agents, NNSC, Customs, NSO and many others in the simple and straightforward business of discharging rice, makes none of these agencies accept responsibility for delays, or what can be done to avoid them,"

They suggested that only the necessary agencies and knowledgeable ones in port and shipping operations, should be involved in the discharge of goods at the ports.

According to them, "since many of the vessels are on time charter, the government is involved in payment of demurrage on these vessels as soon as the time for the charter elapses."

M. V. Akbar, which is on 110 days time charter, berthed Apapa Port on June 13, with a rice load of 29,000 meiric tonnes. At a minimum demurrage of 350 dollars a day, by the time the ship finally sails in November, the government is likely to pay some 315,000 United States dollars, the unit of currency in which the demurrage is paid.

At the time of filing this report, the ship had discharged about 19,000 tonnes of rice.

There are several other such vessels which have spent over four months at the ports and are yet to finish discharging their goods.

They include M.V. Damoda Tasaka which berthed on May 2; M.V. Akrata which berthed on April 10; M. V. Ouranio Toxo which berthed on June 26; M. V. Lorenzo which berthed on June 25 and M. V. Morning Glory which berthed on May 23.

Several of the ships' agents spoken to, said apart from delays in physical discharge of the imports, their ships also encounter the problem of irregular bunkerage which results in ships being "shut down" until bunkered.

CSO: 3400/140

NIGERIA

FUEL SHORTAGE HINDERS GOODS DISCHARGE AT PORTS

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 17 Sep 85 p 13

[Text] Some of the ships which brought scarce commodities into the country some months ago are yet to fully discharge their consignments at the Apapa and Tin Can Island ports because of shortage of fuel.

At the Apapa port, two vessels, M.V. Lorenzo and M.V. Alikrator, lost between the, 36 working days while awaiting bunkerage.

The situation was so bad that M.V. Lorenzo shut down completely and meals for the crew and sailors on board the vessel were cooked on the ship's deck until she was "given an emergency fuel supply of 25 tonnes last Thursday.

The ship which berthed on June 25, had as at the weekend, a total of 80,500 bags of rice yet to be discharged, according to the chief officer of the vessel.

M.V. Alikrator, which berthed on July 17, could not discharge the remaining 1,500 tonnes of rice because of lack of fuel.

In answer to a question, the chief officer of the vessel said: "I do not know what is responsible for the lack of bunker here. I am new in the vessel, so go and ask the Nigerian National Shipping Line Limited."

The public relations officer of the Nigerian National Shipping Line Limited, Mr. Willie Nwokedi, refused to accept responsibility on behalf of his company for none supply of bunker to rice vessels at the ports.

He said: "The Nigerian National Shipping Line is only responsible for ensuring that the rice ordered by the Federal Government arrives safely in the country."

We do not have anything to do with the running of the chartered vessels and the delays in cargo discharge cannot be attributed to us either," He referred the Daily Times to Ashave Far East Line Limited.

Ashave Far East Line Limited, on its part, also refused to accept responsibility for the none bunkering of the rice or any other vessels at the ports.

NIGERIA

FUNCTION, STATUS OF COMMODITY BOARDS DISCUSSED

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 20, 21 Sep 85

[Article by Kingsley Kubeyinje]

[20 Sep 85 p 3]

[Text] Nigeria's commodity boards were established by Decree 29 of 1977 to carry out the functions of the state marketing boards. The decree requires the commodity boards to "secure the most favourable arrangements for the purchase and sale of relevant commodities, to stabilise producer prices and promote the development and rehabilitation of producing areas and to ensure that adequate supply of inputs such as fertilisers, sprayers, and chemicals are made available to farmers in order to enhance their productivity and earning capacity."

In all, seven commodity boards were established. They are the Nigerian Cotton Board, Nigerian Groundnuts Boards, Nigerian Grains Board, Nigerian Palm Product Board, Nigerian Rubber Board, Nigerian Cocoa Board and Nigerian Tuber and Root Crops Board. The Tuber and Root Crops Board was dissolved in 1979 because of its inability to generate sufficient activities. In its place, the National Root and Tuber Company was established.

But over the years, have the six commodity boards achieved their objectives of increasing agricultural production as well as improving both the earnings and welfare of farmers? According to Chief Emmanuel Inang, assistant director of research, Central Bank of Nigeria, the role of the commodity boards is reflected in their marketing activities, the effectiveness of which is determined by the volume of agricultural produce they buy yearly.

Statistics have, however, shown that the volume of agricultural produce the boards buy has been dwindling since 1974. For example, the volume of cocoa bought by the cocoa board dropped from 240,000 tonnes in 1974 to only 115,000 tonnes in 1983. The quantity of palm kernels bought by the board dropped from 310,000 tonnes to 154,000 tonnes during the same period, while groundnuts dropped from 114,000 to merely 2,500 tonnes in 1982.

Apart from the dwindling quantity of produce purchased by the boards, their export role has also shrunk to what Chief Inang described as "a mere shadow of what the defunct regional marketing boards used to do in the 1960s." Consequently, at present, only three commodities -- cocoa, rubber and palm kernel -- still feature in Nigeria's export list and in the last three years, they yielded on the average less than ₦300 million annually.

It may be pointed out that of the three commodities, the largest earner of foreign exchange is cocoa. For example, in 1980 export sales of cocoa was ₦399.66 million; in 1981, it was ₦166.65 million; in 1982, ₦314.94 million and in 1983, ₦167.68 million.

Although, the decline in the volume of commodities bought by the boards is generally attributed to the neglect of the agricultural sector and the reluctance of the boards to stock-pile the agricultural commodities in the face of world-wide economic recession, experts still hold the boards partially responsible for their inability to spur farmers into increasing their productivity.

Apart from buying agricultural produce, the marketing boards are also expected to stabilise the prices of the items. The aim according to experts is to reduce fluctuations in the amount the farmers receive for their produce during a particular season. Experts, however, believe that the boards' practice of sticking to a particular price which is announced at the beginning of the year has made the boards to sustain heavy financial losses. The reason is that the prices fixed do not take into account variations in the amount of commodities produced within a particular season and this is known to be a common feature in world commodity market.

According to Mr. Kingsley Iheanacho Lkpe, assistant general manager, ICON Limited, "the practice of maintaining a particular price throughout a season has led to "a regime of seemingly unending losses." He said that as a result of the practice, the cotton board lost ₦23,671,800 and the palm produce board lost ₦83,336 between 1977 and 1980 produce seasons. At the same period, the groundnuts board lost ₦3,494,333 and the rubber board lost ₦6,603,833.

Experts also contend that the boards have been unable to improve the earnings and well-being of farmers and that their impact on farmers is negligible. According to Chief Inang, the majority of farmers do not even know of the existence of the boards, while many others do not know the role they are expected to play. "Apart from lateness and frequent delays in paying farmers, there are rampant complaints of inflation of prices of fertilisers, sprayers, bags, twines, insecticides which happen to be distributed by the boards," he said.

But why have the commodity boards been unable to achieve their set objectives? Experts believe that the constraints include the unscrupulous activities of licenced buying agents and government's pricing policy. The prices fixed

by the government are usually higher than the prices obtainable in the world market.

Apart from the problems enumerated above, the pattern of consumption is also changing. For example, domestic demand for vegetable and palm oil has outstripped domestic production. Also the local production of rubber and cotton hardly meets the needs of local tyre and textile factories. Consequently, some of the boards have nothing to export.

Another problem is that the commodity boards are not profit-oriented and thus not cost-conscious. The result is that the boards have amassed huge debts from loans raised through the Central Bank. For example, as at June 30, 1984, and with the exemption of the Nigerian Cocoa Board, the other commodity boards have a total outstanding loans of ₦620,440,444 out of the ₦2,937,656 borrowed from the Central Bank. Of the amount, the cotton board which received ₦319,736,206 is owing ₦133,583,712.

[21 Sep 85 p 3]

[Text] The palm produce board received ₦527,150,000 and had total outstanding loan of ₦328,396,459. The groundnuts board received ₦42,168,000 and is owing ₦16,677,057. The Nigerian grains board received ₦93 million and is owing ₦50,967,133. But because the commodity boards have performed below expectation, some financial experts have suggested that the boards be re-organised.

They believe that dissolving them will not be in the nation's overall interest. According to them, the re-organisation will include pruning down the number of commodities the various boards deal in, since some of the commodities are not even available for them to buy.

For example, Chief Inang wants only the "important and strategic" agricultural produce to be bought by the boards. They include cocoa, coffee, groundnut, rubber palm oil and kernels. He also believes that in order to encourage initiative and minimise bureaucracy, government representation in the commodity boards should be substantially reduced and replaced by farmers and representatives of successful farmers co-operatives.

Experts also suggest that the composition of the TCPP be reviewed to exclude representatives of the commodity boards who could however, serve in advisory capacity Chief Inang wants the role of licensed buying agents overhauled in view of the wide-spread charges of inefficiency and corrupt practices levelled against most of them by both farmers and the commodity boards.

However, the National Union of Public Corporation Employees does not agree that the success or contribution of the commodity boards should be judged by the volume of exports they make. According to the union, though the commodity boards were expected to export, they could do so only after satisfying domestic needs". "If the boards have been able to supply

enough raw materials to local industries, then they should be deemed to have substantially achieved their objectives " the union said.

The union admitted that some of the boards were at present not exporting because they are "starved of development funds." According to the union, the Ex-Minister of Agriculture was wrong in his claim that only the Cocoa Board was "making significant contributions to the economy."

All said, the main problem with Nigeria's commodity boards is their present operational practices and procedures. Perhaps a re-organisation of the boards, will bring about good results.

CSO: 3400/109

NIGERIA

86 PERCENT RURAL HOUSEHOLDS ENGAGE IN CROP FARMING

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 24 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

Article by Ola Jones

Text

A NATIONAL survey on farm practice carried out between July and September last year showed that 86 per cent of rural households in Nigeria were involved in crop farming while 50 per cent kept livestock.

The survey conducted by the Department of Statistics also revealed that 46 per cent of the rural households were engaged in poultry keeping and only four per cent engaged in fish farming.

The agricultural sample census further showed that about three-quarters or 77 per cent of all males in the rural areas were engaged in agricultural activities while the corresponding figure for the females stood at 48 per cent.

On land tenure, it was shown that 89 per cent of all households in rural areas operated their holdings on land acquired on ownership basis; 9 per cent on rented land, while 2 per cent practised on squatter basis.

The statistics office said that the pattern did not vary much across the states except those states in the south-western part of the country (Lagos, Ogun and Oyo) where over 20 per cent of households practise agricultural activities on rented land.

Maize and guinea-corn top the list of the 11 major crops grown by the various households in rural areas of the country.

While the two crops recorded 46 and 45 per cent respectively, cassava, beans and yam record-

ed just below 40 per cent, millet and groundnut also recorded about 32 per cent each.

It said melon and rice were reportedly grown by 20, 13 and 11 per cent of all households respectively while only 3 per cent of the rural households cultivated cotton.

The Department of Statistics said that in terms of even spread across the country, maize and cassava were the only two crops grown by a reasonable proportion of households in each state.

Survey on the practice of livestock revealed that over 60 per cent of the rural households keep goats while 30 per cent engaged in sheep-rearing and about 10 per cent or less were engaged in keeping other types of animals.

However, 90 per cent of the households in 15 states of the federation engaged in keeping chickens while the remaining four states had between 80 and 90 per cent of their households engaged in poultry-keeping.

On the use of fertilizer, the figure varied from state to state. Eighty-five per cent of households in Kaduna, according to the survey make use of chemical fertilizer while in Lagos and Cross River, only 2 per cent use fertilizers.

Of all the households that engaged in crop farming in the country, about 48 per cent were discovered to be using fertilizer for their activities.

CSO: 3400/141

NIGERIA

FLIGHT SERVICES BETWEEN KADUNA, ZARIA PLANNED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 24 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

Article by Matthew Onwudinjo

Text

NIGERIAN Civil Aviation Training Centre (NCATC) is to introduce a daily commercial flight service between Kaduna International Airport and the centre's aerodrome in Zaria, the Principal of the Aviation Centre, Alhaji Musa Abdullahi, has disclosed.

He told the *New Nigerian* in Zaria, that the NCATC had completed arrangements for its take off but had been awaiting approval from the Ministry of Transport and Aviation.

He expressed the hope that the new Minister of Transport and Aviation, Brigadier Jeremiah Useni, would not hesitate to give approval to the project designed to assist the Nigeria Airways and provide continuity flight service for Zaria-bound passengers who often have had to continue their journey by road from Kaduna.

The principal explained that the centre planned to use small-sized jet planes capable of taking between 18 and 20 passengers at a time. They are the Cessna-Citation and H.S. 125.

He said, the centre had qualified pilots and engineering and technical personnel to

the planes at no extra cost.

The Cessna-Citation and or H.S. 125 jets would each cost between 1 and 2 million Naira to acquire. He expressed regret that the centre was not financially capable of buying either of the two jets.

Asked how the centre would acquire the aircraft to commence the flight services since it could not afford to buy the jets from its purse, the principal said: "all it takes is for the Federal Government to give us on hire-purchase any one or two of some of the private jets confiscated from politicians by the Federal Government."

The principal said the centre's aerodrome was capable of taking jet planes like the 737 and others and that the introduction of the commercial flight services between Zaria and Kaduna would give technical student pilots the practical knowledge of flying commercial planes without having to undergo further training after leaving school.

He explained that the commercial flight when introduced would make the aviation centre less dependents on the Federal Government for subvention.

CSO: 3400/141

NIGERIA

MANAGER SAYS AMINU KANO AIRPORT UNSAFE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 25 Sep 85 p 16

Article by Yusuf Ozi Usman

[Text]

THE Aminu Kano International Airport is operationally unsafe because of inadequate airfield facilities, the Airport Manager, Alhaji Abubakar Sadiq, has said.

He informed the Minister of Transport and Aviation, Brigadier J.T. Useni on a visit to the airport yesterday that airfield lighting and navigational aids have been grounded because of lack of spare parts.

He said the grounded facilities were the most crucial in terms of operational safety of the airport.

He said the spare parts would only be obtained abroad and urged the minister to hasten action in acquiring them.

Alhaji Abubakar said the terminal building at the airport which was commissioned in 1957 had almost outlived its usefulness.

He added that it was originally designed to cater for small-bodied aircraft such as DC 3 and DOE.

The airport manager explained that based on the full passenger capacity of these aircraft, the terminal building was expected to handle a maximum of about 100,000 passengers per annum.

He said this passenger capacity when compared with the current passenger movement of 600,000 passengers per annum was clearly inadequate and showed how overstretched utility services of the building were.

Alhaji Abubakar said persistent power cuts and fluctuations had destroyed most of the electronics and telecommunications equipment at the airport.

He said the situation was so bad that they now needed a substation equipped with more powerful standby generators to ensure steady and uninterrupted power supply to the airport particularly at night and in bad weather.

The airport manager said a contract had been awarded for the construction of the power house for the airport, adding however, that work had been grounded for lack of funds.

The minister assured that he would look into the problems.

CSO: 3400/142

NIGERIA

NORTH, SOUTH NOT LINKED TO TELEVISION AUTHORITY

Kaduna SUNDAY NEW NIGERIAN in English 22 Sep 85 p 16

[Article by Gausu Ahmed]

[Text]

TWENTY-THREE years after the introduction of television in Northern Nigeria, television set owners in Katsina and Daura can still not receive signals from the Nigerian television stations.

Instead, they have been viewing programmes from Niamey or Damagaram in Niger Republic.

Similarly, TV set owners in the southern part of Kaduna State could only view programmes from NTA Jos as signals from Kaduna can not be received.

A *Sunday New Nigerian* investigation revealed that for the past ten years, several abortive attempts have been made to get a direct link with NTA Kaduna with the northern part of the state — Katsina and Daura, and the southern part — Kachia and Kafanchan areas.

These attempts, known as "the northern and southern extension projects", were started in 1974 by the then North Central State Government under retired Brigadier Abba Kyari initially aimed at covering the whole state with television facilities.

Having conceived the idea, the Abba Kyari government went ahead and purchased "Very High Frequency (VHF) television equipment worth 3.9 million Naira from the PYE T.V.T., a British subsidiary of Philips of Holland.

The *Sunday New Nigerian* investigation further revealed that when the equipment arrived in 1975, they had to be deposited at Jaji as no feasibility studies as to where to locate the sites of the

project had been made. Thus, the equipment had to lay down there for a year exposed to all types of hazards.

Our investigation further showed that, a disagreement ensued within the state Ministry of Information as to whether the (defunct Broadcasting Corporation of Northern Nigeria, BCNN) now NTA Kaduna or the Ministry of Information should handle the project.

The state government settled in favour of the latter and the BCNN was asked to be the technical adviser in the projects.

However, as a result of the shoddy work done by some inexperienced contractors employed by the state Ministry of Information to handle the projects, coupled with some internal wrangling within the Ministry, only the Tsanni Project could partially take off by October 1979.

Reliable sources close to the state Ministry of Information told SNN that when Alhaji Abba Rimi

came to power in 1982, he conceived the idea of setting up an independent state television and therefore the southern and northern extension of the project was temporarily nipped in the bud.

The Abba Rimi Government sought to use the equipment bought from the PYE TVT (some of which had already become obsolete) for setting up the state television station and there was just no money to purchase new equipment. The SNN investigation also confirmed that some of the equipment are still lying idle at Funtua and Kachia.

Also the Tsanni micro waves repeater station, popularly known as the "Katsina Video" has been deserted and the machines remained dormant for more than one year now.

The last military administration in the state in its effort to continue with the project tried to contract out the project to some electronic engineering companies such as Allan Dick, Micro Waves Associates, PYETVT and Siemens but many of them were said to have either requested the government to purchase new equipment or given higher estimates on the projects, both of which the state government appeared reluctant to accept.

When our reporter contacted the state Ministry of Information, officials refused to make any comment.

Contacted to hear their side of the story, the General Manager NTA Kaduna, Alhaji Ibrahim Abubakar said that "we are only technical advisers and are not involved in awarding contracts for the projects."

Asked what equipment are needed for effective transmission of NTA Kaduna programmes to Katsina and Daura, Alhaji Ibrahim said that the present six transmission and micro waves Stations at Jaji, Kabomo, Funtua, Malumfashi, Kankara and Tsanni are adequate enough provided they are all functioning well.

CSO: 3400/110

NIGERIA

NEW SATELLITE LINKS TO IMPROVE TV RECEPTION

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 17 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Article by Daniel Tifato]

[Text] LACK of import licence has made it impossible for Nigerian Telecommunications (NITEL) and Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) to replace some of their bad cables that link their stations to the Domestic Satellite (DOMSAT). The bad cables have been responsible for the poor reception of the local and network programmes of the NTA Kaduna.

The General Manager of NITEL for Kaduna Zone, Mr. I.A. Mohammed who gave these reasons, said that lack of import licences made it impossible to replace equipment which had

become obsolete.

However, he said that since June when they started receiving the new equipment, there had been a remarkable improvement of television services in Kaduna.

To continue with the trend, the General Manager said that a task force has since been set up to go round the country and clean all the domestic satellites.

When the General Manager of NTA, Kaduna, Alhaji I.S. Abubakar was contacted to explain why the station had not been able to provide good transmission especially of network programmes to viewers, he said that most of the fault lay with NITEL equipment in Kaduna or Lagos.

He said that NTA did not use cables but that they got their signals from NITEL through microwaves.

Though Alhaji Abubakar did not rule out the possibility of NTA equipment for that purpose becoming faulty, he asserted that if it did, it was a rare phenomenon.

Commenting on the re-absorption into NITEL fever gripping staff, the Zonal General Manager, Mr. I.A. Mohammed, said that no honest or dedicated staff of the organisation would have anything to worry about his appointment.

Explaining the current re-organization in NITEL, the General Manager said that all staff of the former Post and Telecommunications (P & T) now working with NITEL should continue to work diligently pending the time that they would get their re-absorption letters.

He disclosed that no staff had been laid off, but assured that when there was the need to do so, criteria such as declining productivity, old age, indiscipline, fraudulent practices and lack of pre-requisite qualification would be taken into consideration.

In such cases, those affected would be paid their entitlements.

Mr. Mohammed stressed that because of the need to establish a sound footing for NITEL, employment of qualified personnel was going on in all areas of need.

The General Manager also

disclosed that as from next year, telephone subscribers in the state would begin to enjoy the International Direct Dialing (IDD) system, which was being used only in Lagos and Abuja currently.

He said that only registered subscribers for such purposes make international telephone calls in their homes or offices because of their accessibility to the code number 171. All others, he added, make such calls from NITEL offices.

The Kaduna zone of NITEL comprises of Abuja, Niger, Sokoto, Kwara, Kano and Kaduna states.

CSO: 3400/110

NIGERIA

BRIEFS

MILITARY DELEGATION TO ITALY--The Chief of Air Staff, Air Vice Marshal Ibrahim Alfa, accompanied by three other senior officers left Lagos yesterday on a five-day official visit to Italy. The visit was at the invitation of the Italian Chief of Air Staff, Air Marshal B. Cottone who was in Nigeria last April to attend the Nigeria Air Force (NAF) day and 21st anniversary celebrations. In Italy, the Chief of the Air Staff would pay courtesy calls on top Italian military officers and visit a number of places which include the Aeritalia and Aeromacchi plants, aircraft manufacturers and some Italian Air Force installations. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 17 Sep 85 p 13]

CSO: 3400/110

SEYCHELLES

ECONOMIC GAINS IN SECOND QUARTER

Victoria NATION in English 30 Aug 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

SEYCHELLES' economy made further gains during the second quarter of 1985, with the strongest performance in tourism, the Central Bank has reported in its April-June quarterly review.

Altogether, 35,515 visitors arrived during the first six months of 1985, an 18 per cent increase over the same period in 1984. Only in 1979 did more tourists arrive in the first half of a year. The average length of stay of these visitors was 11.1 nights, fractionally more than in 1984.

While most visitors continue to come from the established European markets of France, the UK, West Germany, Italy and Switzerland, there was an encouraging increase in arrivals from some other countries such as the Netherlands, Scandinavia, Japan and Hong Kong.

"This broadening of the geographic sources of visitors to Seychelles should help reduce the vulnerability of tourism to adverse developments in any particular country," the Central Bank notes.

The limited information available for the production sector generally showed a rising trend. Production of meat, soft drinks and beer, copra and green tea were all higher than in the April-June quarter of 1984, while production of cigarettes and cinnamon were lower. The most general indicator, electricity generation, was 9.1 per cent higher than in the June quarter of 1984.

The external account for the quarter showed a current deficit of R12.5 million, slightly less than the R14.3 million deficit in the same quarter last year. Receipts were R140 million, a healthy 17.6 per cent higher than in the June quarter of 1984 (tourism receipts were 19.4 per cent higher), while current payments were R152 million, 14.3 per cent higher.

Capital accounts

Both the private and official capital accounts were in deficit, the latter mainly due to large repayments of official loans abroad. As a consequence, the overall balance of payments surplus achieved in the first quarter was converted into a substantial net deficit of R43.7

million at the end of the second quarter.

For the first half of 1985, strong foreign exchange earnings from tourism were primarily responsible for an increase of 17.5 per cent in current receipts compared with 1984. Export earnings recovered from the very low level of the January to March quarter to R8 million in the June quarter, mainly accounted for by fish re-exports. This was double the level of the second quarter of 1984.

On the other side of the balance of payments, current payments also rose quite rapidly but more slowly than receipts (11 per cent). Import payments of R86 million were only 3.6 per cent higher but, unfortunately, other categories of payments such as foreign travel expenditures and transfers abroad by other businesses were not so restrained.

Import payments in the June quarter were equal to the average of the preceding five quarters. "There would appear to be no discernible upward trend in import payments despite the upturn in economic

activity that has been evident since 1984," the Central Bank says.

Total domestic credit from the Central and commercial banks rose by eight per cent over the quarter and 24 per cent over the first half of 1985. "This rate of growth is clearly unsustainable," the review says. All of the increase in credit in the June quarter was absorbed by the Government.

Commercial bank lending to some parts of the private sector, notably private households and manufacturing, rose quite strongly over the quarter but overall, the banks' private sector lending fell back again following an increase in the March quarter. This was somewhat surprising given the pick-up in economic activity, the Central Bank noted.

Budget deficit

The main reasons for the large increase in lending by the banking sector to the Government were the size of the Government's budget deficit and the fact that so far this year the deficit has been financed mainly from domestic sources rather than by foreign borrowing. The recurrent budget deficit in the June quarter was R9.8 million, some R4.1 million less than budgeted. This improvement in budgetary performance partially offset the larger than expected deficit in the first quarter.

With net capital expenditure also being below budget in the second quarter, the overall deficit, which had been well above budget in the first quarter, was, at R87.2 million, close to budget for the first half of the year.

Domestic prices remained fairly steady with retail prices remaining "remarkably" stable. According to the Seychelles Retail Price Index for the "all income" group, prices rose by 0.3 per cent in April-June over the same quarter last year. Fish prices rose by 5.8 per cent, other food prices fell by 0.9 per cent, mainly because of a decrease in the price of rice in June, and non-food prices were virtually stable.

Inflation zero

Compared with a year earlier, the Index rose by only 0.3 per cent.

The average rate of inflation, as measured by the average monthly prices in the last 12 months relative to those in the preceding 12 months, was even lower at zero for the "all income" group and 0.5 per cent for the "low income" group. At June 1984, these inflation rates had been nine per cent and 10 per cent respectively. The annual rates have fallen steadily since then to reach the current remarkably low levels.

The prices of imports fell by 1.6 per cent over the June quarter while those of local goods rose by 1.8 per cent, mainly because of a rise in fish prices in the first two months of the quarter caused by the usual shortages of supply at that time of the year.

In the main, economic developments in Seychelles in the second quarter of 1985 were favourable, the Bank review says. "Economic activity, particularly in the important tourism sector, continued to strengthen and most indicators suggest that this trend will continue over the rest of 1985," it adds.

SEYCHELLES

DREDGING RECLAIMS LAND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW PORT

Extent of Operations

Victoria NATION in English 11 Sep 85 pp 1, 2

[Text] **DREDGING operations in Victoria Harbour shifted to the southern tip of Mahé Quay early yesterday morning to reclaim another 16.5 hectares of land for expanding the commercial port and for industrial development.**

The *Marco Polo*, one of the world's five largest dredgers, had previously added some eight hectares to the fishing port at the Long Pier, on which modern industrial and demersal facilities will be built.

The dredger also deepened the yacht basin between the New Port and the Long Pier.

An East Coast project engineer expressed satisfaction yesterday at the progress of the reclamation work. He said the dredger would take some four weeks to fill the area south of the commercial port, which will be three times its present size when the reclamation is completed.

The *Marco Polo*, a cutter suction dredger, started operations on August 21 and, working round the clock, is well

ahead of schedule. The dredger was contracted from the Dutch company Jan de Nul to spend between five and six months in Victoria Harbour.

After reclaiming the commercial port area, it will move further south to Plaisance, Le Rocher and Providence, where yet more new land will be reclaimed from the sea in the form of offshore islands. It will also build a causeway on which will be constructed a modern road to link the reclaimed areas together.

Meanwhile, the local firm United Concrete Products Seychelles (UCPS) has almost completed its share of a contract to build a temporary causeway between Victoria and the Special Projects Unit (SPU) quarry at Providence. UCPS has built the causeway from the Le Chantier roundabout to opposite the La Misere road junctions, using material dredged from the sea.

The SPU will take over from the La Misere junction and continue towards Providence.

The temporary causeway will serve the big SPU lorries

which will carry rocks and aggregate to the construction sites at the two ports when the civil contractor, John Howards, starts work. This will save the present east coast road from being damaged by the 10-tonne lorries and the congestion that these vehicles would cause.

New Fuel Pipeline

Victoria NATION in English 3 Sep 85 pp 1, 10

[Text]

THE East Coast dredger, the *Marco Polo*, is expected to finish reclaiming eight hectares of new land for a modern fishing port today, a mere 13 days after it started work.

It will then move to the south of Mahé Quay to reclaim another 16.5 hectares for commercial port and industrial development.

Last night the dredger was halfway into the yacht basin where it was expected to deepen the area opposite where the *Lady Esme* used to berth and where National Youth Service boats load and unload. Earlier, workmen had installed the dredger's huge discharge pipe across the Long Pier road to allow the giant machine to pump the material dug up from the floor of the

yacht basin just east of Ile Hodoul into the area already reclaimed north of the Long Pier.

While the northern sea front of the already reclaimed land will be used by industrial tuna vessels and inter-island schooners, the southern edge of the Long Pier from the present inter-island quay to the spot that was expected to be dredged last night will berth and serve the demersal fleet.

The dredger started work 12 days ago and until Saturday it deepened the approaches to the future tuna port by digging up the sea bed off the navy base and depositing the crushed coral and sand in the large area now reclaimed.

On Saturday, having deepened the area north and northeast of the Long Pier to at least 7.5 metres, enough to safely take modern tuna and

even larger vessels in future, the *Marco Polo* moved to the entrance of the yacht basin between the present inter-island quay and the northern tip of the Mahé Quay at the commercial port.

Until yesterday evening, the dredger's discharge pipe coiled round the tip of the Long Pier to come ashore at the navy base like a giant floating umbilical cord. Because of this, all tuna transhipments and inter-island activities at the end of the pier had to be temporarily shifted to the New Port.

The deepening of the entrance to the yacht basin also clears the way for the laying of a submarine pipeline that will deliver fuel from the Seychelles Petroleum Company (Sepec) depot at the New Port to boats in the fishing port.

CSO: 3400/128

SEYCHELLES

BRIEFS

CHINESE WOMEN'S DELEGATION--A senior delegation from the All-China Women's Federation (ACWF) led by the Director of International Liaison, Mrs Guan Minqian, called on the SPPF Deputy Secretary-General, Mr James Michel, at Maison du Peuple yesterday. Mrs Guan, who arrived with a three-strong delegation on Monday night for a week's goodwill visit, said after yesterday morning's meeting that her trip was aimed at strengthening the already good relations that exist between Seychellois and Chinese women. The visit also follows one to China last year by Mrs Rita Sinon, the chairperson of the Seychelles Women's Association. Accompanied by Mrs Sinon and Mrs Yu Bing, the Chinese Charge d'Affaires in Victoria, both of whom attended the meeting with Mr Michel, the Chinese delegation then called on the SWA Patron, Mrs Geva Rene, at State House. This was followed by talks with the SWA's National Committee. Yesterday afternoon the visitors laid wreaths at the Zomm Lib monument to those who died for the Seychellois socialist revolution. Mrs Guan is also a member of the council of the Sino-African Friendship Association and the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. Her delegation includes the Deputy-Director of the Helongjiang Provincial Women's Federation and two officials of the ACWF International Liaison Department. "We would like to further promote friendship between women of our two countries as well as use this opportunity to learn from the experiences of our sisters in Seychelles," Mrs Guan told the press after her meeting with Mr Michel. The talks between the two sides during the week would supplement similar efforts on the political, government and mass organisation level in contributing to solidarity and goodwill between the two countries, Mrs Guan said. Before coming to Seychelles, the ACWF delegation visited Tanzania, Mozambique and Mauritius after participating in the UN Decade for Women Conference in Nairobi last July. [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 11 Sep 85 pp 1, 2]

RAIN DESTROYS CROPS--Major farmers have warned that there will be shortages of agricultural produce over the coming months after last Saturday's torrential rain devastated farms around Mahe, Praslin and La Digue, causing damage valued at well over a million rupees. The downpour, which left three people dead and another injured on Mahe, also caused extensive damage to building and roads. A spokesman for l'Union Estate on La Digue said over the telephone yesterday that that farm alone had suffered losses estimated at some R900,000. This included some R700,000 worth of crops such as tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, beetroot, cabbages, beans, onions, cassava, sweet potatoes, cinnamon and others. The amount and force of the water that flooded

the parastatal farm was even too much for the ducks--2,363 drowned. The l'Union Estate spokesman had said on Sunday morning that with floods on La Digue two feet (60 cm) deep in places, the rain had also taken a heavy toll of small farms, destroying crops and drowning livestock. Strangely enough, agricultural officer Gerald Chetty reported relatively little damage on Praslin after a preliminary survey of farms on the island. However, one blocker at Anse Kerlan lost almost his entire crop of tomatoes and beans when a drain at the airstrip got blocked and overflowed. But on Mahe, reporters who went round the island over the past two days found that while most farmers in the hills escaped relatively lightly, losses on some low-lying parastatal, cooperative and private farms were heavy. [Excerpt] [Victoria NATION in English 4 Sep 85 pp 1, 2]

WATER PIPELINE PROJECT--The R150-million scheme involves building a 600,000 kilolitre dam at Baie Lazare to serve some 18,000 people south of Pointe au Sel on the east coast and Anse Boileau on the west by 1990. It is the second largest construction project in the country after the East Coast scheme. The design stage of the project was launched last July and at present staff from the Survey Division are working out the best routes for the future pipeline. This preliminary survey, which also involves Water Authority staff, includes site investigations, drilling and other work as well as surveying. A Water Authority spokesman said yesterday it would take over a year before the preliminary survey is completed and actual pipe laying starts. Construction is expected to take around two-and-a-half years. [Excerpt] [Victoria NATION in English 3 Sep 85 p 10]

TOURISM PROFIT INCREASES--Tourism had brought in R167 million by the end of June, contributing 57 per cent of the country's current account receipts for the first half of 1985. The figure is a 19 per cent rise on the same period last year. There was also an 18 per cent increase in the number of visitors arriving from abroad by June 1985 when 35,515 people had disembarked on these shores. Meanwhile, the latest tourism statistics show that 47,334 visitors had arrived in Seychelles by August 25. This was a 17 per cent increase on the same period last year. Over 35,300 or three quarters of them were Europeans. The top markets were France with 8,124 visitors, that is 23 per cent of the Europeans and 17 percent of the total, Italy with 7,931, the UK and Eire with 6,206, West Germany with 6,078, Switzerland with 3,348, and Japan with 2,923. The Italians were up 76 per cent, the Japanese by a third, West Germany and the UK and Eire by 21 per cent each and France by 14 per cent. Visitors from Switzerland were down 10 per cent. The biggest increase was one of 259 per cent in visitors from the Netherlands which shot up from 156 last year to 560 in to the same period this year. The biggest drop, of 44 per cent, was in visitors from South Africa, down 2,335 in 1984 to 1,316 by August 25 this year. [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 31 Aug 85 p 2]

USSR DONATES MORE FUEL--Another 1,000 tonnes of diesel fuel from the Soviet Union have been delivered to Seychelles as a donation to the country's fisheries and EEZ protection duties. The fuel was pumped into the government's storage tanks on Ste Anne earlier this week by the tanker 'Alexeevka'

which has since left port. The fuel, to be used by the Seychelles People's Navy in its fisheries and exclusive economic zone (EEZ) protection duties, is the latest consignment of a gift of 7,500 tonnes of motor, aviation and marine fuel promised by the USSR last year. [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 17 Aug 85 p 2]

INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS GAMES--The Second Indian Ocean Islands Games formally closed yesterday with Reunion winning 49 Golds followed by Mauritius 36, Madagascar 29 and Seychelles 6, four of them in boxing. Mauritius, however, got the most number of medals with 126 including 39 Silvers and 51 Bronzes, their total being 2 more than Reunion. Seychelles won 10 medals in boxing (4 Golds, 2 Silvers and 4 Bronzes), 9 in athletics, 2 in weightlifting and 4 in sailing. Comores won 7, all of them Bronzes, and Maldives took only one, a Silver in badminton. The Third Indian Ocean Islands Games will take place in Madagascar. [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 2 Sep 85 p 4]

RTS-TV COVERAGE EXTENDED--1,500 people on Praslin's east coast will today join their west coast neighbours in receiving RTS television programmes, increasing coverage to almost the entire island. New transmitting stations to be set up this month will also relay RTS-TV to those few remaining areas of Mahe that are still not able to receive transmissions, making national television programmes available to some 98 per cent of the country's population by the end of the year. [Excerpt] [Victoria NATION in English 6 Sep 85 pp 1, 3]

CSO: 3400/128

SOUTH AFRICA

POSSIBLE SCENARIO AFTER BOTHA STEPS DOWN DESCRIBED

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 15 Sep 85 p 16

[Text] **South Africa's future is filled with uncertainty but one fact is beyond dispute: Mr P W Botha will not be State President forever. However it happens, we will wake up one morning and find he is no longer in charge. Political Correspondent David Breier takes a look at that day through rose-tinted binoculars and thinks of some things that could happen without actually solving all our political problems (or perhaps only a few of them).**

MR BALTHAZAR John Vorster, whom some of us actually thought was a bit of a reformist, had to go.

Then along came Mr Pieter Willem Botha. We all had no doubt he was a reformist. Now some are not so sure.

When Mr Botha goes, the National Party parliamentary caucus will meet to choose his successor.

Of course, they could choose Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi or Bishop Desmond Tutu. But that would be going too far even for a political fantasy, which this is.

So let's assume they choose Dr Gerrit Viljoen, the best of the NP's paltry political talent.

Blinking owlishly through his spectacles, Dr Viljoen addresses the nation on TV. He dissects the state of the nation in his usual precise donnish manner.

And slowly it dawns on us that this is really the statement of intent we have been waiting for.

Like Mr Botha before him, he is a little short on detail.

But he has made the statement of intent that Dr Slabbert and Chief Buthelezi have waited for.

President Viljoen's first task is to appoint his own Cabinet. He looks at Mr Botha's bloated 21-man Cabinet with a sigh. Such

a big team and so little talent.

His red pen does a merry dance down the Cabinet list. One or two may be spared. Perhaps Mr Chris Heunis. He tried to be State President too, but lost by a few votes. It will be churlish to drop him. Maybe make him Minister of Transport or Posts and Telecommunications?

Mr Pik Botha puts up such a good show on American TV. Shouldn't we make him Ambassador to Washington? On second thoughts he can stay on as Minister of Foreign Affairs if he promises to unwind a little.

Mr F W de Klerk is another who wanted to be President. The Transvaal farmers like him so what about making him Minister of Agriculture?

Mr Louis le Grange? The police like him so much, he would make an excellent head of security police.

Mr Rajbansi and Mr Hendrickse? Mr Heunis would never forgive him if he got rid of them.

Having thrown away the deadwood, President Viljoen will have to build up his smaller, more efficient Cabinet.

He will soon realise that to rely on the meagre talent available in the NP will be condemning the country to further misrule.

Something will be found for Mr Barend du Plessis, although Finance may be a bit over his head, specially with the rand worth 12 American cents.

He is appointed special Cabinet representative/troubleshooter with a brief to carry the Message of Reform around the world and rebuild South Africa's international image.

Then President Viljoen decides on a really radical move.

He feels quite sympathetic to the idea of bringing people from outside the party and even outside Parliament into a Government of National Unity.

Dr Slabbert always said the Cabinet lacked talent. Why not give him his chance to prove he can do better?

President Viljoen's secretary gets Dr Slabbert on the line, and the President makes him an offer of a Cabinet post.

"Was that really a statement of intent you made the other night?" Dr Slabbert asks the President.

"I stated what I intended, so I suppose that's a statement of intent," says the President slightly irritated. Maybe this Slabbert chap isn't so bright after all, he thinks.

"Then I'm with you," says Dr Slabbert. "When can I begin?"

Still wondering whether he is doing the right thing, President Viljoen appoints him Minister of Defence (that should get the troops out of the townships).

With a Prog in his Cabinet, President Viljoen gets another rush of blood. What about a black in the Cabinet? After all even Mr P W Botha had said blacks would take part up to the highest level? He phones Chief Buthelezi.

"Yes, I'd be delighted to be President. When do you step

down?" the chief says.

"When I said the highest level I didn't mean that level yet," says the President slightly taken aback. "But when you have a bit of Cabinet experience we can consider it."

That's how Chief Buthelezi becomes Minister of Constitutional Affairs.

Then President Viljoen remembers the most important portfolio of all. Somewhere in his Cabinet must be room for a man who can talk to the ANC, UDF, Bishop Tutu, Mr Mandela and all the people Mr Botha wouldn't see.

President Viljoen appoints Dr Anton Rupert. He has the ear of both black leaders and white Government.

A few other appointments complete the Cabinet. Professor Nic Wiehahn is Minister of Manpower. He made the system, he might as well run it.

Mr Harry Schwarz is Minister of Finance. If he mucks up the economy too, that should give us all a few laughs.

President Viljoen combines the post of Minister of Law and Order with that of Justice. The new Minister, Professor John Dugard, promptly releases Mandela and all other political prisoners.

And we all lived happily ever after . . .

CSO: 3400/12

SOUTH AFRICA

REPORTER DISCUSSES BOTHA'S FIRST YEAR AS PRESIDENT

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 15 Sep 85 p 16

[Text]

Yesterday marked Pieter Willem Botha's first year as President. And that, his critics hold, is about all that can be said of his tenure. John MacLennan reports.

THERE'S real concern among the technocrats who oil the wheels of Government that President Botha has lost his touch completely, if not his grip as well.

The most trenchant evidence to support them is his reaction to critics of his Durban speech, when he had an audience seldom accorded a leader.

The speech, the bellicose manner in which he delivered it and the lack of answers he provided to the waiting world have led directly to US and European sanctions and a crisis in the economy.

President Botha, according to informed sources, has operated for some time in something approaching a vacuum. He was solely responsible for writing his speech and not even Mr Chris Heunis, Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, was able to consult him on the content.

Even when the bombshells of criticism exploded around him President Botha refused to be concerned. His view was that people would come around once they had studied the speech in some depth.

CSO: 3400/12

It was only when he was visited by a delegation to discuss the country's economic plight that the full enormity of his failure came home to him.

Senior officials are also highly critical of the level of expertise being shown not only by President Botha, but by almost the entire Cabinet, in coming up with solutions and far-sighted policies aimed at promoting peace.

"There are no contingency plans. The Government has used up its acceptable options," I was told.

In the meantime Dr Slabbert stands by his assessment that it is a stark and sombre fact that President Botha has lost touch and cannot cope. "He has opened the door of reform but he doesn't seem able to move through it himself," he said this week.

Various developments, such as the newly announced common citizenship dispensation, indicated "we have got rid of the dream of apartheid. But we are still stuck with the reality."

Dr Hermann Giliomee, of the Department of Political Studies at the University of Cape Town, said the country was going through a very bad spell because President Botha is "finding a conflict inside himself between being an Afrikaner Nationalist and a white technocrat.

"He has never been able to create a new alternative ideology which could bind people across colour lines... he has lost his grip and he will go within a year."

Sources said President Botha was bitter over the lack of support he had received here and abroad for his reform efforts. He continually compared his efforts with those of his predecessors and questioned why they had not received similar criticism in view of their lack of movement.

He has already been dumped as a leader, it seems, by many of the heavyweights in the business community.

Professor Alf Stadler, who heads the Department of Political Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, takes the view that the Government has created the mechanics to provide change, but does not have the political will to use it.

He identified the solution to the country's plight as universal suffrage and the removal of every statute that discriminates on grounds of colour.

But there was no clear attempt to address these problems. "The Government has no will. It is only reacting to a series of forces it cannot control and it doesn't seem able to take the initiative."

Sources feel President Botha will continue to do things "his" way until calling an election anytime after October next year. He will present his efforts to the electorate in the form of a referendum asking for a "yes" or "no" on reform.

He hopes to achieve a major victory and bow out as an elder statesman leaving his successor to take the next steps. And the man they tip to do the job is Dr Gerrit Viljoen, Minister of Education and Development Aid.

SOUTH AFRICA

POLICE ARREST 136, RELEASE 17

MB041545 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1543 GMT 4 Oct 85

[Text] Pretoria 4 October SAPA--Police said today 136 more people had been arrested and 17 released in the past week under the emergency regulations, bringing to a total of 693 the number of people still in detention in terms of the 22 July proclamation.

According to the lists released weekly by police in Pretoria, 3084 of the 3777 people arrested had been freed.

A police unrest situation report earlier today said, however, that 1067 people were still being held in terms of the emergency regulations while 3760 had been released.

The names of those detained in the past week are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Magisterial District</u>
1. William Manye	Vanderbijlpark
2. K. Goula	Vanderbijlpark
3. Michael Mzotheyn	Port Elizabeth
4. (illegible)	Port Elizabeth
5. Lucky Mathethethe	Randburg
6. Johannes Olifant	Vanderbijlpark
7. Stanley Makgothi	Johannesburg
8. L. Mojikwe	Bathurst
9. William Myungi	Port Elizabeth
10. Gladman Nemje	Port Elizabeth
11. Michael Maswaud	Port Elizabeth
12. Albert Mill	Port Elizabeth
13. Wellington Msutu	Port Elizabeth
14. D. Hodi	Port Elizabeth
15. Nkosu Gunu	Port Elizabeth
16. Singkele Acienne	Port Elizabeth
17. Patrick Mgexana	Port Elizabeth
18. Phillip Lam	Port Elizabeth
19. Frick Mgxekana	Port Elizabeth
20. Vincent Gogela	Port Elizabeth
21. Gladman Ngindana	Port Elizabeth

22. B. Gogela	Port Elizabeth
23. Phillip Menlena	Port Elizabeth
24. Vuyo Maduara	Port Elizabeth
25. Niisia Makhe	Port Elizabeth
26. Samson Valtyn	Port Elizabeth
27. Mkawiseli Barnes	Port Elizabeth
28. Mockhaal Monzezi	Port Elizabeth
29. Mceba Madwara	Port Elizabeth
30. Goodman Njeka	Grahamstown
31. Zmekara Jack	Uitenhage
32. Thelile Kika	Uitenhage
33. Wizile Manot	Uitenhage
34. Wizile August	Uitenhage
35. Msedici Thaita	Uitenhage
36. Isaac Mogase	Johannesburg
37. Vusumzi Khayile	Johannesburg
38. Johannes Mosike	Johannesburg
39. Jacob Ramatlola	Johannesburg
40. Znekaya Jack	Uitenhage
41. Thkile Kika	Uitenhage
42. Vuyisile Nanto	Uitenhage
43. Mncedisi Thinta	Uitenhage
44. Viyisile August	Uitenhage
45. Dosmond Boy	Port Elizabeth
46. Witness Zolanbanga	Port Elizabeth
47. Luvuyo Mgucha	Port Elizabeth
48. Malala Mpwelelo	Port Elizabeth
49. Grootboom Thozamile	Port Elizabeth
50. Xanti Lamani	Port Elizabeth
51. Patrick Tlhaleroe	Port Elizabeth
52. Wandile Goqo	Port Elizabeth
53. Mlungisi Bebe	Port Elizabeth
54. Nkosana Tswewne	Port Elizabeth
55. Mbuyiseli Kakana	Port Elizabeth
56. Mledisi Lumka	Port Elizabeth
57. Zolile Pondo	Port Elizabeth
58. Yukhe Mboxwana	Port Elizabeth
59. Mfusi Magwani	Port Elizabeth
60. Monkie Booi	Port Elizabeth
61. Yukile Mvula	Port Elizabeth
62. Zangamele Booi	Port Elizabeth
63. Thanduxoho Mlogo	Port Elizabeth
64. Mvuleni Fali	Port Elizabeth
65. Mzwandile Nogwaza	Port Elizabeth
66. Mvuleni Ngenje	Port Elizabeth
67. Thando Noki	Port Elizabeth
68. Gedian Nqwenso	Port Elizabeth
69. Jisa Bonga	Port Elizabeth
70. Monde Njenje	Port Elizabeth
71. Mzimasi Maselane	Port Elizabeth
72. (illegible)	Port Elizabeth
73. Sonwabo Nogwaza	Port Elizabeth

74.	Lugile Meke	Port Elizabeth
75.	Mkhuselei Nocaya	Port Elizabeth
76.	Emanuel Dlali	Port Elizabeth
77.	Phakamisa Gaba	Port Elizabeth
78.	Mzukisi Nqame	Port Elizabeth
79.	Ntsiekelelo Mote	Port Elizabeth
80.	Prince Phillip	Port Elizabeth
81.	Mqondisi Sinuka	Port Elizabeth
82.	Themba Jakavula	Port Elizabeth
83.	Coby Tshindela	Port Elizabeth
84.	Zandi Jack	Port Elizabeth
85.	Mbuyiseli Vundla	Port Elizabeth
86.	Vuyane Tyana	Port Elizabeth
87.	Andile Sokutu	Port Elizabeth
88.	Vukile Nayetle	Port Elizabeth
89.	Vusumzi Mayedwa	Port Elizabeth
90.	Mxolisi Phillip	Port Elizabeth
91.	Shimpivo Gaba	Port Elizabeth
92.	Michael Dudu	Port Elizabeth
93.	Mzimkulu Mdklako	Port Elizabeth
94.	Xolile Mzimba	Port Elizabeth
95.	Sindile Mtikulu	Port Elizabeth
96.	Geina Nocwaza	Port Elizabeth
97.	Mlamli Masikana	Port Elizabeth
98.	Mzimasile Makubalo	Port Elizabeth
99.	Ndodomzi Mangwane	Port Elizabeth
100.	Vusumzi Mpangesh	Port Elizabeth
101.	Myula Mdlebe	Port Elizabeth
102.	Monde Shenula	Port Elizabeth
103.	Mbuyisen Mtwebana	Port Elizabeth
104.	Nkosana Niomqama	Port Elizabeth
105.	Thembisele Dyanajies	Port Elizabeth
106.	Xolani Masikama	Port Elizabeth
107.	Zoule Nqxokolo	Port Elizabeth
108.	Thami Nzawana	Port Elizabeth
109.	Simo Hopa	Port Elizabeth
110.	Thando Fibi	Port Elizabeth
111.	Luntu Nswayana	Port Elizabeth
112.	Lungsile Mangangwane	Port Elizabeth
113.	Mutsi Gotyi	Port Elizabeth
114.	Mzamba Ramuga	Port Elizabeth
115.	Raymond Mandulo	Port Elizabeth
116.	Andani Tsotsobe	Port Elizabeth
117.	Vuzumsi Jalavu	Port Elizabeth
118.	Myakhe Tuswa	Port Elizabeth
119.	Batu Zazini	Port Elizabeth
120.	Mark Dayimani	Port Elizabeth
121.	Patrick Dlamo	Port Elizabeth
122.	Luyada Boyoc	Uitenhage
123.	Jabulane Nkosi	Benoni
124.	Charles Khambule	Benoni
125.	Ignatius Ishabalala	Benoni

126. (illegible-female)	Port Elizabeth
127. ...Ndlovu	Port Elizabeth
128. (illegible)	Port Elizabeth
[No number 129 as received]	
130. (illegible)	Port Elizabeth
131. Myushe Monde	Port Elizabeth
132. (illegible)	Port Elizabeth
133. (illegible)	Port Elizabeth
134. ...Nkothedo	Port Elizabeth
135. (illegible)	Fort Beaufort
136. ...Motana	Fort Beaufort

Those released were:

1. A.S. Sebako	Randfontein
2. N. Kosi	Randfontein
3. N. Seepolle	Randfontein
4. A.P, Morake	Randfontein
5. M. Sepotokela	Randfontein
6. B. Magatusi	Randfontein
7. A. Ntsele	Randfontein
8. M. Sejeke	Randfontein
9. T.J. Makinia	Randfontein
10. P. Ntshingila	Randfontein
11. L.O. Sethole	Randfontein
12. J.M. Morare	Randfontein
13. P.E. Khoza	Randfontein
14. R.F. Nobadule	Randfontein
15. S.M. Molebeleli	Randfontein
16. P.J. Magalefa	Randfontein
17. P. Thlapane	Randfontein

CSO: 3400/154

SOUTH AFRICA

FOURTEEN THOUSAND HELD BEFORE EMERGENCY DECLARED

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 15 Sep 85 p 4

[Article by Luke Zeeman]

[Text]

THE full extent of the violence that has swept South Africa in the past year was revealed this week by Police Ministry spokesman Colonel Leon Mellet, who said more than 14 000 people had been arrested before the State of Emergency was declared.

The arrests were for various offences related to the unrest.

"Many of the 14 000 have been convicted of criminal offences, as in the case where a young child died after a car was stoned on the Reef," Colonel Mellet said.

Since the Emergency was declared, a further 2 000 people had been detained but many of these had been released.

More than 700 policemen had been injured — about 360 seriously — and the homes of more than a 100 policemen had been burned down.

Before the State of Emergency was declared, Colonel Mellet wrote an article that has only now been published in "Woord en Daad", organ of the Afrikaans Reformist churches.

In it he claimed the unrest was part of an organised revolt by the ANC and its affiliates.

He said their supporters had been instructed to attack policemen, commit sabotage, and to try to make the black population ungovernable.

In the same magazine, Professor J H van Wyk of Hamanskraal said South African society "has overnight turned into a smouldering volcano".

"It is naive to still ask how we can prevent a revolution. The question now is 'how do we survive it, in this early phase'?"

CSO: 3400/10

SOUTH AFRICA

FOURTEEN DIE IN CUSTODY SINCE START OF UNREST

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 15 Sep 85 p 4

[Article by Arlene Getz]

[Text]

FOURTEEN people — including a 13-year-old youth — have died in police custody since political unrest first swept through the country last year.

Their deaths apparently were not included in figures given last weekend by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange, who said that more than 660 people had been killed and at least 2 400 wounded between June 1984 and August 1985.

Three of the deaths in custody took place after the State of Emergency was declared eight weeks ago, bringing to 26 the number of people who have died in police cells since the death in detention of black consciousness leader Mr Steve Biko in 1977.

The 13-year-old who died was Johannes Spogter of Steytlerville. According to the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC) Johannes was arrested on July 3 and held "in connection with public violence". Two days later his parents were told he was dead.

A pathologist who conducted a post-mortem on the boy was later reported by the DPSC to have attributed the death to head injuries.

The detainees' committee also said that on the day Johannes was taken into custody, his 20-year-old uncle, Mr Mzwandile Muggels, was arrested by Steytlerville police while bleeding from gunshot wounds.

The next day police told Mr Muggels's parents their son — the co-ordinator of the Karoo Youth Congress — had died after being wounded during an attack on a policeman's home.

Two of the three people who died in police hands after the declaration of the State of Emergency were from Ginsberg, King William's Town.

Thembalake George (15) and Loyiso Ndzandze (20) both died in hospital after being detained during a gathering in Ginsberg.

The third death was that of Sonnyboy Mokoena (24) who died in Pilgrim's Rest police cells in the Eastern Transvaal.

Arrests and deaths related to the State of Emergency continued to escalate this week.

On Thursday nearly 900 schoolchildren were arrested in the Johannesburg area.

Two days earlier a four-year-old Pretoria girl, Mita Ngobeno, died after being shot in the head by a rubber bullet.

About 1 000 people are still being held in terms of emergency legislation.

CSO: 3400/10

SOUTH AFRICA

SADF FIGHTS TO CLEAR NAME

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 15 Sep 85 p 4

[Article by Arlene Getz]

[Text]

A YEAR after the first army troops moved into the riot-torn townships of the Vaal Triangle, the South African Defence Force has embarked on a public relations programme to "clear its name".

The stated aim of its programme is to investigate allegations of troop excesses during their controversial presence in black areas.

A second, less explicit, goal is to distance SADF activities from the poor image of the South African Police.

The SADF programme — covering the Cape, Free State and Transvaal and expected to be extended to Natal — involves the establishment of complaints offices for township residents who have grievances about troop behaviour.

Said Colonel Basil Ginsberg, the soldier in charge of the Transvaal section of the operation: "We cherish our name and don't feel we are above the law because we're armed and in an emergency situation."

Colonel Ginsberg said the programme was initiated because there were "a lot of rumours about what the SADF was supposed to be doing to the local population".

The operation was also designed to highlight the differences between the army and the police, with the SADF only investigating complaints against its own members.

In this connection, a know-your-army briefing — supplemented by models of Buffels, the armoured vehicles used by the SADF, and police Casspirs — has been prepared.

There were, however, a number of snags when the SADF began its circuit of Witwatersrand townships this week.

These ranged from such minor problems as the Buffel models not being ready, to a more major difficulty: lack of response. Not a single resident ventured near the offices set up early in the campaign.

Said a Soweto resident: "Nobody's going to go to something like that."

"How can they expect us to complain to the very people who have committed the offences against us?"

Colonel Ginsberg was aware of this problem and was hard-pressed to counter it.

"Our intentions are good," he said.

Among the methods he hoped would succeed were telling the complaints teams not to wear uniform and playing down such military formalities as rank.

He admitted the "civilian" atmosphere was negated by the heavily armed and uninformed presence accompanying the team's convoy into townships but said this was unavoidable. Troops in Buffels — with guns and quirks sticking out over the side — had to be present to protect the military teams and any would-be complainant.

Colonel Ginsberg ascribed the stayaway to ignorance about the scheme or fear of being branded a collaborator.

The complaints teams — which consisted of a lawyer, an interpreter, a number of clerks and an army officer — could make 28 township visits a week. Complaints could be made in Johannesburg, said Colonel Ginsberg.

CSO: 3400/10

24 October 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

RECENT EVENT SEEN AS CAUSING ACCELERATING POLARIZATION OF COMMUNITIES

Cape Town WEEKEND ARGUS in English 21 Sep 85 p 11

[Article by Dale Lautenbach]

[Text]

EVENTS in South Africa are forcing different communities even further apart than before and, commenting on this accelerating polarisation, one voice asked whether that split had now reached the point of no return.

Writer and senior lecturer at Hewat Training College Dr Richard Rive felt polarisation had accelerated at such an alarming rate that it was "almost at the point of no return".

"And this in spite of plausible and commendable efforts on the part of many unenfranchised people to strive towards a non-racial, non-exploitative and democratic society."

Every time a child was shot with a rubber bullet, a pupil beaten with a quirt and a community leader detained, the situation polarised further and communities became more estranged.

When would the State renounce this violence?, he asked.

"That could go some way to lessening polarisation — if we have not already moved beyond that."

Playwright and head of the department of social work at the University of the Western Cape Professor Adam Small did not believe that polarisation now was a black/white issue. Nor did Professor Jakes Gerwel, dean of the Faculty of Arts at UWC.

Government

"It's ideas that are polarised now," said Professor Small.

"On the one hand you have the idea of an open society with unconditional South African citizenship for all and at the other pole stands the Government.

"Bits of apartheid may be on the way out, even chunks, but the underlying philosophy is being reaffirmed right now in the middle of our present troubles," he said, referring to statements made by new Bureau of Information head and former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Louis Nel on television this week.

"Polarisation is escalating, yes, but you have black and white guys falling out together on one side or another," said Professor Small.

Brutality

He also saw an "emotional polarisation arising out of police brutality", and referring to events reported this week asked about the police:

"What sort of monster has apartheid given birth to?"

"But most frightening of all perhaps is that polarisation which on its one side has people who cannot and will not know — who will not recognise what is happening. Without wanting to sound sentimental, that just makes one want to cry."

He cited a letter which appeared in *The Argus* this week criticising efforts by Mrs Di Bishop and Mrs Molly Blackburn to organise political meetings for white teenagers instead of letting them remain concerned only about their pimples and the opposite sex.

Dr S J Saunders, vice-chancellor of the University of Cape Town, said one of the factors causing increased polarisation between different groups was the entrenchment of racial discrimination in the new constitution.

Other contributing factors he saw were: the slow pace of reform and the uncertainty as to where it would lead; the Government's lack of vision of a South Africa which would satisfy the legitimate political aspirations of all and the increasing evidence of the effect of actions by the South African Police and the Defence Force.

Referring to events on Wednesday in Valhalla Park, Mowbray and outside Caledon Square he said:

"A clear statement from the police covering all details and explaining what happened is essential if that deep feeling of shame most Capetonians must feel about these

events is to be removed, and if polarisation is not to be increased."

Professor Arnold Abramovitz, head of the department of psychology at UCT, saw polarisation accelerating through the manner in which reasonable, moderate people were being forced towards radicalisation.

"Polarisation now is between the powerful and the powerless. And the danger in this is a tendency to mindless bandwagoning," he said.

"The Marxist who has done his homework could take advantage of the situation to recruit people. And this could result in allegiances being formed without thought, without consideration of the kind of social dispensation that allegiance would mean 'after the revolution'.

"I am concerned that if a black majority prevails, the resulting social order would not have the informed consent of the very people who have brought that new order into being.

"In short, democracy loses out," said Professor Abramovitz.

It was deplorable that people were being driven against

the wall and forced to make choices in a "non-choice" situation, he said. He gave the example of bus drivers who, earlier this week, had come out in peaceful protest and were met with violence.

Paradox

"They were a good example of typical middle-class people caught up in a situation not of their own making. That they were sjamboked was an absurd paradox and an instance where your Mr Moderate is radicalised by his experience."

The agents of the State were misleading themselves in assuming they could put down and repress using the methods they do.

"What they're doing has exactly the opposite affect," he said.

Mr O von G Scholtz, vice president of the Chamber of Industries, said that while radicals on both sides were being driven further apart, there was a growing solidarity in the moderate majority. Mr Andrew Peile, president of the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce, said calls for consumer boycotts on a racial basis were doing nothing to ease racial tensions.

CSO: 3400/99

SOUTH AFRICA

SCRAPPING OF PASS SYSTEM WILL NOT MEAN INVASION BY SQUATTERS

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 15 Sep 85 p 16

[Article by John MacLennan]

[Text]

The President's Council report on Urbanisation Strategy this week recommended the scrapping of influx control and the pass system — two facts of life for blacks under National Party Governments which have probably done more than any other to cause anger and racial friction.

But whites are not going to be swamped in the cities by unemployed squatters. The fine print takes care of that. John MacLennan reports.

YOU find the nitty gritty in the errata sheet for Chapter Nine.

This spells out under what conditions an expected human wave of anywhere between one-and three-million blacks will be allowed to trek to white areas in search of work. This is the closest estimate officials can provide on what might be expected in the next 15 years.

They may only live on "approved sites" and the abandonment of influx control will be done "in accordance with the demands of good order".

If masses of people start putting up shanties on sites which are not approved they will merely be prosecuted in terms of the Squatters Act. And as Dr Dries Oosthuizen,

chairman of the committee which produced the report, was able to remark with some satisfaction: "That applies to everybody. Blacks and whites. There is no discrimination."

There might be no old-style discrimination, but the committee produced a blueprint which is heavy on evidence gathered as far afield as Brazil and Indonesia and extraordinarily light on answers to such important questions as to where the job-seekers will work and live.

In parts the report reflects facts and sentiments which would do the Black Sash proud and would in the past have been hammered by the Government as woolly headed do-goodery. It ably identifies the major problems which can be expected when the gates are opened — urban population growth, employment and housing — but only provides speculative answers for this great leap in the dark.

This is what it has to say about urbanisation, for example: "It is recommended that future urbanisation be dealt with as far as possible in such a way that the advantages of urbanisation are exploited as effectively as possible and the problems are kept to a minimum."

And housing: "There should be a housing strategy that will help to ease the chronic overcrowding, especially in black urban areas, as quickly as possible."

On employment: "In the face of an incapacity in the formal sector to create sufficient employment, there will have to be further reliance on the ability of the informal sector to provide job opportunities."

For all its lack of detail the report DOES propose a massive slash at red tape and other irritants which have bedevilled blacks. President's Council chairman Dr Piet Koornhof sees it leading to a "new and peaceful South Africa."

In recommending that both influx control be abolished and the dompas be scrapped and replaced with a new pass for all racial groups, the committee makes the point that the present system — in addition to creating black anger — just doesn't work.

To critics who fear white South Africa will be engulfed, it points out that the increase of blacks in urban areas is already caused mostly by the natural population growth in these areas.

Nor does the present system, with all its attendant human suffering, work. "Illegals" who were apprehended and convicted "simply do not go back to their homeland. And, if they are sent back or go back, they simply return to the urban areas."

The committee recommends home ownership should be regarded as a national objective and provides a package which ranges from investigating special financing programmes, to orderly squatting, to — wait for it — an information service for new arrivals who want to get a roof over their heads.

The bottom line of the report, for all its vagueness, can best be summed up in a sentence which reflects a spirit of new beginnings: "Urbanisation should not be regarded as an evil. It should be used as an opportunity to utilise one of a country's greatest assets, namely its people."

CSO: 3400/12

SOUTH AFRICA

NEED TO REWRITE NATION'S HISTORY GAINING STRENGTH

Cape Town WEEKEND ARGUS in English 21 Sep 85 p 10

[Article by Frans Esterhuyse]

[Excerpt]

MOVES to rewrite South African history may now gather momentum after the Government's apparent acceptance of the need for a new history relevant to all race groups.

Teachers and historians say a major obstacle is resistance from education authorities to the introduction of adequately revised history textbooks in schools.

Current versions, said to be riddled with racial and ideological bias, have been found to be repugnant to coloured and black people, for example, and out of touch with reality as perceived by them.

Some teachers believe that in the present climate of reform the time has come for the Government to take the initiative to ensure a more balanced history, acceptable to all groups.

Monopolies alleged to exist in the present system for selecting and approving school textbooks should be broken, they say.

Over the years various projects have been undertaken to revise history books, but authors and publishers have come up against stone-wall resistance from the authorities when it came to seeking official acceptance.

Urgent need

An indication that official attitudes may be softening came in the Government's approving response to some of the recent findings of the Human Sciences Research Council's investigating committee on intergroup relations.

The committee found there was "an urgent need" for a comprehensive general history of South Africa in which the roles of all the groups were reflected in "an objective, balanced manner."

Education should aim at cultivating better understanding between groups, the committee said.

The Government's response, as outlined in a statement from President P W Botha, was that "negative attitudes and negative stereotyping" were unacceptable.

The statement said that "in concurrence with what was said in the report" history written on a basis of prejudice and presenting groups as stereotypes or portraying past events "from a certain angle only" was harmful to intergroup relations.

Move slowly

The scientific validity of all prescribed study material was, therefore, subject to constant critical evaluation.

Professor Basil le Cordeur, head of the history department at the University of Cape Town, said the Government seemed to move slowly in such matters.

Schools were still using all the old textbooks and he had so far seen no sign of a change. Now syllabuses would have to be changed.

Earlier this year, in an address to the South African Historical Society, Professor Le Cordeur said South African history needed to be rewritten.

An essential part of a "new" history would be the incorporation of a black nationalist perspective. Without the black contribution an essential dimension of South African history would be missing.

Professor Hermann Giliomee, of the department of political studies at UCT, said that until now the current version of South African history had been an instrument of white ideology.

Revised books

This kind of history was also being dished out to black schools under a system of manipulating the black textbook market.

Professor Giliomee is one of the contributors to part of a series of revised history books designed for schools and now being prepared under the editorship of Mr Peter Kallaway, a senior lecturer in the education department of UCT.

A leading South African educationist, Dr Franz Auerbach of Johannesburg, said the time was certainly ripe for the introduction of a new history of South Africa.

The two main facets of this issue should be kept separate. These were firstly the process of having South African history rewritten and, secondly, the mechanics of having new textbooks approved for schools.

Not only was there a need for rewriting history, but the separate compartments in which South Africa's young people found themselves as a result of the apartheid system had to be broken down.

In 1971, Dr Auerbach produced South Africa's first school textbook on racial attitudes — The ABC of Race — but it was not accepted by the Government's education authorities.

No demand

A revised version of the book, which was also translated into Afrikaans under the title Ras, Beskawing en Vooroordeel (Race, Civilisation and Prejudice) was used by the South African Institute of Race Relations in 1976 in a major campaign aimed at eliminating race prejudice among white schoolchildren.

Dr Auerbach said this week there had been virtually no demand for his book — it had apparently not been approved by the authorities.

It contained a mass of details designed to explode such ideas as:

- The existence of a "white civilisation". (Western civilisation, he argued, was based on hundreds of inventions made by people of different races all over the world.)

- That there are inferior and superior races;

CSO: 3400/99

SOUTH AFRICA

CRASH COURSE PLANNED TO IMPROVE NATIONAL PARTY IMAGE

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 15 Sep 85 p 10

[Article by Kim McGowan]

[Text]

NATIONALISTS plan a crash programme to improve the television and Press image of MPs and MPCs, including the State President, Mr P W Botha.

The programme, which will cost thousands of rands, includes the re-shooting of all official photographs of MPs and MPCs, which will then be circulated for use by the media.

The party had considered conducting the programme itself by purchasing its own video cameras but this had not proved feasible. A specialist company will now be commissioned to put the party's members through their paces.

The courses will be run on a voluntary basis, according to Mr Chris Rencken, the former SABC political commentator who is now the NP information chief and MP for Benoni.

He would not say how much the programme was expected to cost, other than "quite a few thousand rands".

"We feel that everyone, including Cabinet Ministers and the State President himself, should take part but we are not going to force anyone into it," said Mr Rencken.

The reason for the programme was that the party felt its "more public" members were not using the age of electronic media "to best effect", said Mr Rencken.

"It is not necessarily because we suddenly feel inferior, or that we are losing out in any way. We just feel that the technique of political communication and persuasion has changed since the advent of television and we have to keep up."

The idea was generated from "observations" made by Mr Rencken on a recent visit to Germany and Austria. He had been briefed to pick up tips from politicians seasoned in the art of television communication.

Although it is being regarded as a "once-off" programme, refresher courses will be offered to party members who feel they need it. New MP's and MPC's will automatically be enrolled for the courses.

CSO: 3400/12

SOUTH AFRICA

AFRIKANERISM THREATENED BY LATEST REFORMS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Sep 85 p 10

[Article by Janine Stein]

[Text] AFRIKANERS would never surrender their right to exist as a nation in their own "fatherland" and would not accept being treated as a group without a government, a language and a land of their own, the chairman of the Afrikanervolkswag, Professor Carel Boshoff, said yesterday.

The latest Government reform measures heralded the death of 300 years of Afrikanerdom and eroded Afrikaner protection.

They would be strongly resisted — the struggle to regain independence intensified when Afrikaners realised their leaders were losing political leverage, Professor Boshoff said from the Afrikanervolkswag headquarters at Doussy near Ermelo.

Separate

Assurances given to the Whites that they would remained in control would "cut no ice" and

the reform measures would not satisfy the needs and aspirations of other population groups, he said.

Instead of a mixed existence in South Africa, the subcontinent should be divided into a number of territories to accommodate each nation wishing to form a separate state, Professor Boshoff said.

Blacks could not be included in the political dispensation at the expense of Whites, Coloureds and Indians, and it was most unlikely that a generally accepted agreement would be reached on the distribution of rights, power and privileges, he said.

Professor Boshoff viewed with apprehension the unofficial "forum" supposed to pave the way for the inclusion of Blacks into the political dispensation.

Disaster

"A constitution which aims at accommodating the different peoples in the same State will lead to disaster," he said, adding that Whites in Zimbabwe, Zambia and elsewhere had emerged from such "forums" stripped of their power and future.

Professor Boshoff also said the inclusion of Blacks would not bring stability and economic prosperity to the country.

International acceptance would only be gained if Whites were divested of effective political power in favour of Blacks, he said.

"It is an illusion to believe that a way will be found to rule a deeply divided society in such a way that one group will not be dominated by others," Professor Boshoff said.

While opting for partition into national states, he said this was not an appeal for a return to the situation prior to the new constitution.

CSO: 3400/10

SOUTH AFRICA

INTENSE DEBATE WITHIN NGK ON APARTHEID STAND

Cape Town WEEKEND ARGUS in English 21 Sep 85 p 7

[Article by Sybrand Mostert]

[Text]

AN INTENSE debate is raging within the Ned Geref Kerk on its apartheid stand.

Polarised opinion between conservative and liberal factions within the largest Afrikaans church — which has yet to denounce its tacit support for apartheid — could lead to confrontation at the next meeting of the general synod and a split with the Ned Geref Sending Kerk.

"The church stands at a crossroads in its history," says Professor Willie Jonker, dean of the theological faculty at Stellenbosch University. He says choices will have to be made which will change the church irrevocably, and that "if the church persists in its present position, a split (with the Sending Kerk) seems unavoidable".

Rocked by the triple blows of suspension from the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and a joint declaration of apartheid as a heresy by the world body and the Sending Kerk, Dutch Reformed ministers have decided to either "dig the trenches and not give an inch more" or admit past mistakes and take a radically new direction.

At the nub of the debate is the present revision of Ras, Volk en Nasie, a church policy document which presently purports that separate churches for whites, coloured, Asians and blacks are scripturally verifiable. The contentious document will be high on the agenda at the next meeting of the general synod.

Sharpening swords

Sharpening swords for the coming battle, a group of conservative clergymen have formed their own organisation. Their message is that apartheid is not a heresy and NGK supporters are not heretics.

"There is a great deal of support for the movement," says Parys cleric the Rev Thys Booyens, chairman of the movement's constitutional committee. Another member of the movement is Broederbond chairman and head of the Afrikaner Volkswag Professor Carel Boshoff.

Following the call by a leading Pretoria theologian for Afrikaners to make a confession of guilt in a political sense, isolated voices in the Cape have followed suit.

"We have disrupted families, uprooted communities and implemented unjust, discriminatory laws," said Dr Willem Nicol. "If we do not acknowledge and confess our guilt, we would be making it more difficult for them to forgive us."

Similiar sentiments were expressed by two clerics in Cape Town, and the Stellenbosch circuit — representing 15 parishes — has acknowledged that they have failed to show Christian brotherly love.

CSO: 3400/99

SOUTH AFRICA

CHAPLAINS' WEAPONS TRAINING PROMPTS CHURCH ACTION

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 15 Sep 85 p 4

[Article by Luke Zeeman]

[Text] SOUTH African Defence Force chaplains are being trained to kill. And they have to obtain security clearance from a selection board before they may minister.

Although the Defence Force says weapons training is optional, this and other points of dispute have led a group of churches to submit to the army a memorandum which sets out new guidelines for chaplains.

These include that they should be allowed to minister to both sides in a conflict and not have to wear a uniform.

The Catholic, Anglican, Church of the Province of South Africa, Methodist and United Congregational churches have reached agreement on the guidelines.

Chaplains undergo the same basic training as other national servicemen and this includes weapons training, unless the trainee chaplain objects. The army does not see a conflict of interests.

Paratus, the official magazine of the Defence Force, says the chaplains receive the same training as other conscripts and shows a photograph of chaplains carrying semi-automatic rifles.

A Defence Force spokesman said this week that the weapons training was "optional" but could not give details of how many of

their 260 national servicemen chaplains had refused to handle weapons.

There are no Anglican or Catholic national servicemen chaplains in the army but there are six Anglican and three Catholic chaplains in the Permanent Force.

According to Paratus, the Liaison Jewish Chaplain, Rabbi I Rubenstein, believes national service is an excellent opportunity for a rabbi to work and function in his professional capacity.

"The ministry of the Church will be available to all its members and extended to every person who will receive it.

"The ministry to military personnel should be exercised in such a way as to not, in matters such as uniform or rank, manner of payment, or carrying arms, to identify the Church either with military action as such, or with the aims and ideology of any particular side in military conflicts."

CSO: 3400/10

SOUTH AFRICA

CHRISTIAN AID GROUP ENDS TOUR, APPLAUDS UK SANCTIONS

MB031030 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1011 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Johannesburg, 3 October, SAPA--The initiative of the British government in fully applying European Economic Community sanctions on South Africa was today applauded by Christian Aid delegates at the end of their 10-day, fact-finding mission to South Africa.

Christian Aid is a division of the British Council of Churches and delegates were invited to tour South Africa by the SA Council of Churches.

The Statement called on Mrs Margaret Thatcher's government to "cease to afford comfort and support to the South African Government."

Christian Aid also called again for the release of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

The statement called on the British Government to:

Continue to represent in the strongest possible terms to the government on the actions of the SA Defence Force and the SA Police in the townships, and the assaults on and torture of detainees;

exert additional economic pressure through carefully targeted sanctions;

arrange meetings at ministerial level with ANC leaders;

send observers to the "so-called treason trials" in South Africa;

allocate funds to the oppressed in South Africa through channels acceptable to them;

make it possible for more black South Africans to receive scholarships for further training in South Africa and overseas.

CSO: 3400/154

SOUTH AFRICA

NATAL NEWSPAPERS TO BE TAKEN OVER BY JOINT COMPANY

MB031531 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1529 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Durban 3 October SAPA--Natal's two main daily newspapers, the NATAL MERCURY and the DAILY NEWS, are to be taken over by a new company formed jointly by their present owners from 1 November.

This was announced in Durban today by Mr David Robinson, managing director of Robinson and Company, and Mr H.W. Miller, executive chairman of the Argus Company.

Robinson and Company and the Argus Company will form a joint company, Natal Newspapers (PTY) Ltd, which will own, print and publish the DAILY NEWS, the NATAL MERCURY, SUNDAY TRIBUNE, ILANGA and POST NATAL.

The continued editorial independence of the newspapers will be assured by the provision that Robinson and Company will continue to appoint the editor of the NATAL MERCURY, while the Argus board will continue to appoint the editors of the Argus newspapers.

The competition board was consulted by both parties, and has approved the new arrangement, subject to Robinson and Company continuing to appoint the editor of the NATAL MERCURY and determining editorial policy.

The minister of home affairs has approved the arrangement.

Mr Robinson said: "I was happy to conclude an agreement which ensured the continued independent voice of the NATAL MERCURY in the Province of Natal. As one of few independent daily newspapers left in the country, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find the resources to keep the NATAL MERCURY viable.

"The cost of capital equipment is becoming exorbitant, and we are at a stage where we need to upgrade in several important areas, in fact, in which the DAILY NEWS has just spent millions of rands and has spare capacity.

"Also, there will be nationalisation and merging of functions in the commercial areas, which will result in considerable cost savings. The present standard of service to advertisers and readers will be sustained. As far as advertising rates are concerned, all newspapers will continue to be competitive in their existing markets.

"The pattern of editorial independence with joint operating arrangements is a common and successful one in the United States.

In Natal, the two major daily newspapers, both of them established more than a century ago, will now have a sounder financial base to ensure that they continue serving the public, in their own distinctive ways, as they have done in the past."

Mr Miller said: "We are very happy indeed to have reached this arrangement with Robinson and company, so that the NATAL MERCURY will continue its independent voice in Natal.

"The directors of the new company appointed by Robinson and Company will be Mr D.L. Robinson, Mr M.D. Mackenzie and Mr. J.G. King. The Argus directors on the six-man board will be Mr P.W. Mclean, Mr H.W. Miller and Mr J.G. Featherstone. Mr Mclean, who is managing director of the Argus newspaper division, will be chairman of Natal Newspapers, Mr Featherstone, now general manager of Argus in Durban, will be managing director, and Mr Robinson, deputy managing director.

"The editors remain Mr James Mcmillam of the NATAL MERCURY, Mr Michael Green of the DAILY NEWS, Mr Ian Wyllie of SUNDAY TRIBUNE, Mr Obed Dunene of ILANGA and Mr Dennis Pather of POST NATAL."

Mr Miller added that further information, as required by the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, will be published by the Argus Company in the near future.

He said it was envisaged that the MERCURY would, in the next 18 months to 2 years, be moved to the DAILY NEWS building and the MERCURY building, owned by Robinson and Co, may be sold.

"In Natal, the two major daily newspapers, both of them established more than a century ago, will now have a sounder financial base to ensure that they will continue serving the public, in their respective ways, as they have done in the past," said Mr Robinson.

CSO: 3400/154

SOUTH AFRICA

AFRIKAANS UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COMPARES POORLY WITH COUNTERPARTS

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 14 Sep 85 p 11

[Article by Hannes de Wet]

[Excerpt]

Researchers at Afrikaans universities perform poorly in comparison with their colleagues at English universities when judged by international standards.

This has emerged from an evaluation done by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

The problem with Afrikaans universities, says Professor Jack de Wet of the CSIR, is that they have "too much in-breeding". Competition for academic posts is limited to Afrikaans-speaking people only.

Professor de Wet is adviser to the general management of the CSIR on grants for research.

In an interview in the latest edition of *Die Suid-Afrikaan*, he speaks frankly about the shortcomings of Afrikaans universities.

Professor de Wet was a key figure in the setting up of a new system through which the CSIR would award grants for research in future.

Researchers, to be considered for grants, will have to submit their work for evaluation, using international norms.

The tentative results of the first evaluations were recently made public.

"And it presented quite a different view of the fragmented world of universities where inbreeding and insulated smugness are so common," writes *Die Suid-Afrikaan*.

The Universities of Cape Town and the University of the Witwatersrand clearly emerged as the leaders in local research. Afrikaans universities in general performed poorly.

According to the latest evaluations, the University of Cape Town qualified in 13 cases for category A and in 38 for category B. Wits's figures for A and B were 12 and 41.

The statistics for Afrikaans universities showed a marked contrast:

- University of Pretoria: two in A and seven in B.
- University of Stellenbosch: one in A and eight in B.
- Rand Afrikaans University: two in A and six in B.
- University of Potchefstroom: two in A and 7 in B.

Professor de Wet believes that Afrikaans universities will change their policies of appointing only Afrikaans-speaking lecturers.

Afrikaans rectors in general have responded favourably to a suggestion by Professor de Wet that they will have to open their ranks in order to get the best people.

CSO: 3400/10

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEF

WHITES POLLED--A new opinion poll shows nearly two out of three urban whites in South Africa believe there will never be a black majority government. The poll was conducted in August by Makinor and covered 1,000 people. Sixty-four percent of those polled believe South Africa would never be ruled by a black government; 72 percent of those interviewed were Afrikaans speaking, and results show they were more adamant that blacks would never rule. People in lower income groups were more convinced things would not change as were people in Pretoria, Durban, and on the Reef, while Johannesburg and Cape Town respondents were more convinced that there would be change. [Text] [Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 12 Oct 85 MB]

CSO: 3400/154

SWAZILAND

NEW POLICE COMMISSIONER GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE

MB081758 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] The commissioner of police, Mr Sandile Mdziniso, says he is determined to promote greater cooperation and understanding between the police force and the media in Swaziland. Addressing his first press conference since his appointment as new police commissioner, Mr Mdziniso told newsmen he would soon be holding regular press meetings with newsmen at police headquarters on specific days of the week. George Mabuza interviewed Mr Mdziniso shortly before he addressed a meeting of senior police officers this morning.

[Begin video recording] [Mabuza] Mr Commissioner, how do you as new police commissioner intend to improve relations between the police force, the press and the media in Swaziland?

[Mdziniso] After consultation with all the parties concerned, it would be very, very desirable if closer communications and closer links with the press could be established. As I have just said, it is an exercise that would have to be embarked upon by all parties concerned. Say, for instance, if a date could be set aside for the press to come to police headquarters to find out what we have for the press.

[Mabuza] Why do you think this is important, Mr Commissioner?

[Mdziniso] This is very, very important because the police force is a public service, so it has to be properly accountable for all its actions to the public being served, so that whatsoever line of policing this country is being taken by the police, it is commensurate to the public need for policing this country, or else how are we going to know that we are doing a service desirable to the public. [sentence as heard]

[Unidentified speaker] So how would you comment on the politicians who are asking the police force to further their own political ends?

[Mdziniso] If that is happening in Swaziland--fortunately I am not aware of that, but it is a possibility that the police force might be used by certain political bodies or political figures for their own ends--that would be terribly wrong. I would appeal that the police force be left alone to try and render a meaningful service to the public and that is our job, full stop. Politicians should look after themselves. They should fight their own political wars and leave the police to do their job. [end recording]

SWAZILAND

BRIEFS

GAZETTE CHANGES LIQOQQ STATUS--The Supreme Council of State is now going to be addressed simply as Liqoqo. This amendment is contained in a government gazette issued yesterday. According to the gazette, by definition, Liqoqo means a council whose function is to advise the king and which shall consist of members appointed by the king to hold office at his pleasure in accordance with such terms and conditions, including emoluments and allowances, as he may determine. The government gazette also states that if the regent is for any reason unable to perform the functions of her office, a person shall be appointed according to Swazi law and custom to perform her functions during such inability. In the King's Proclamation Amendment Decree 1982 it was Liqoqo which was empowered to appoint the authorized person to execute the duties of the king during his absence. [Text] [Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 11 Oct 85 MB]

CSO: 3400/159

ZAMBIA

FOREIGN EXCHANGE AUCTIONS USED TO REVALUE INFLATED CURRENCY

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 20 Sep 85 p 15

Text 7

LUSAKA — Zambia is set to introduce a foreign exchange auctioning system which will lead to a sharp fall in the over-inflated official value of the kwacha.

This is part of a package of economic reforms which is expected to lead to the conclusion of a loan agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for special drawing rights (SDR) of 100 million (\$102 million).

The move, expected to be announced officially on Monday, follows nearly a year of tough negotiations between IMF and Zambian government officials on radical measures needed to halt the country's precipitate economic decline, spurred by low prices and falling production of copper, which provides 90 percent of the country's export earnings.

Last year's production of some 520 000 tonnes was 50 000 tonnes short of government's target,

while a further 40 000-50 000 tonnes drop may be expected this year.

Other measures

Zambian finance minister Luke Mwananshiku is understood to have sent a timetable outlining proposed reforms to IMF managing director Jacques de Larosiere, including a commitment to a foreign exchange auction.

A number of other measures implemented recently, such as a subsidy reduction leading to a 50 percent rise in the price of maize meal, the staple food (further subsidy cuts are likely), reductions in civil service staffing and spending, and the de-control of domestic interest rates, were also included.

Action to clear the K600m-700 million 'pipeline' of unremitted profits and dividends built up over the past six years is a crucial element of the programme.

An IMF team is due in Lusaka late next month to assess the reforms and it is hoped that final agreement on a new standby can be reached by year-end.

A previous SDR225 million 20-month standby facility agreed in July 1984 was suspended last year with only SDR80 million drawn.

Under the proposed auction system, importers will be allowed to bid freely for a limited amount of foreign exchange each week. This is expected to lead to a sharp drop in the official value of the kwacha, which currently trades at around ½ of its official value on the black market.

No agreement can be finalised, however, until Zambia clears some SDR75 million in arrears to the IMF, which may require government to seek a commercial bank bridging credit.

CSO: 3400/156

ZIMBABWE

MINISTER DISPELS FEARS THAT ONE-PARTY STATE WILL ERODE RULE OF LAW

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 2 Oct 85 p 14

Text ...Fundamental rights such as those of association, speech, assembly and so on cannot be absolute because the rights may be used not for creating opinion to turn out the government by lawful means, but persuade minorities to use force to coerce the rest of the population.

Will the rule of law survive in Zimbabwe when it becomes a one-party state?

Yes, says the country's Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, an articulate and ambitious 50-year old Harvard-trained lawyer.

Dr Zvobgo gained a London University law degree while in detention in Rhodesia and later undertook graduate studies in the United States at the Fletcher School of Law and at Harvard where he was awarded a Masters of Laws degree.

He told businessmen in Harare recently that Zimbabwe was going to become a one-party socialist state and this had given rise to fears that the rule of law would be eroded.

In these extracts from his speech, he answers those fears.

"Most of you genuinely want to know the answer, with respect to Zimbabwe, because many one-party states in the third world have failed dismally and their regimes have been associated, or identified, with tyranny, totalitarianism, autocracy, oligarchy and similar forms of dictatorships. This kind of association with tyrannical oligarchies suggests the non-existence of the rule of law in those states.

"The concept of the rule of law has two complementary aspects, one of which is not generally appreciated. These aspects are the static and the dynamic.

"The static aspect simply aims to protect or safeguard and advance individual civil and political rights where they exist in a free society. The aspect represents an ideal required to constitute what would normally be called a democratic state. It (a democratic state) is supposed to have the following attributes:

--The state should be subject to the law.

--The government should respect the rights of the individual and provide effective means for their safeguarding.

--Judges should be guided by the rule of law, protect and enforce it without fear or favour and resist any encroachment by government on their impartiality or so-called independence as judges.

--Legal practitioners should preserve the independence of their profession, assert the right of the individual under the rule of law and insist that every accused is accorded a fair trial. On the dynamic aspect, we should know that legal and political rights have very little meaning or relevance for those who are deprived of such basic needs as food, housing, employment and education...

"We again know that fundamental rights such as, for example, those of association, speech, assembly and so on cannot be absolute or without limitation because, as is happening in this country, the rights may be used not for creating opinion in order to turn out the government by lawful means, but to persuade small (ethnic) minorities to use force to coerce the rest of the population.

"In their extreme meaning, therefore, these rights conflict with the fundamental requirement of public order, national emergencies and the limitations upon the rights of individuals which would not be permissible in ordinary times. The dynamic aspect of the rule of law therefore seeks to establish economic, social, educational and cultural conditions conducive with the dignity of the human person and under which his legitimate aspirations and dignity may be realised.

"The government has tried since 1980, through its development programmes, to uphold this dynamic aspect of the rule of law, without which we could not have meaningfully talked about the static aspect, because there would be no rights to safeguard. In fact, socialism places more emphasis on this dynamic aspect of the rule of law.

"The thorough-going government programmes of upholding and realising social and educational conditions are being tampered with and retarded by minority parties who should be doing their best to save these conditions so that the rule of law can be upheld to the letter for their own benefit.

"Economic, social, cultural and educational developments cannot viably take place in such an atmosphere. Who then is against the rule of law? What should the government do? What should the leaders of these minority parties do?

"The government does not think that wiping them out is the right method although it is the easiest and most effective one in that you both eliminate the vermin and protect the rights of the majority at the same time. The socialist government of Zimbabwe should continue to try to safeguard the rights of individuals and maintain the static aspect of the rule of law, allow dissent and open debate on issues like socialism...

Socialist Zimbabwe is committed to the maintenance of the rule of law and will only resort to extraordinary other options sparingly, when it has to, as the exigencies of the situation dictate. All this boils down to the fact that there will be no meaningful development unless the rule of law in Zimbabwe is maintained.

ZIMBABWE

INDUSTRY MINISTER OPENS SUGAR REFINERY'S BONE CHARCOAL FACTORY

Harare THE HERALD in English 26 Sep 85 p 7

[Text] The Minister of Industry and Technology, Dr Callistus Ndlovu, yesterday opened the Zimbabwe Sugar Refineries' bone charcoal factory in Mount Hampden.

The factory, built at a cost of \$200 000, specialises in the manufacture of animal bone charcoal for use in the refining of sugar.

Bones are obtained in the rural areas and the factory makes 30 tonnes of bone charcoal a month.

Opening the factory, Cde Ndlovu said the use of bone charcoal would not only boost the output of ZSR but also encourage an economical use of bones as a raw material.

"In the light of this our economy is now assured conservation of scarce foreign exchange resources. The use of bone charcoal has created an impetus in the introduction of appropriate technology for Zimbabwe."

Since independence, Cde Ndlovu said, the production of sugar had increased by 50 percent.

The increase in production is also attributed to \$4 million capital investment in the refinery.

The minister said the most recent project to be commissioned was a new electrical sub-station at a cost of \$187 000 last August. "However, there are many more other expansion projects which have been completed and I urge other industrialists to emulate the example of ZSR."

ZIMBABWE

ITALY FINANCES FORESTRY CENTER

Harare THE HERALD in English 13 Sep 85 p 3

[Text] Italy has contributed about \$26 million to be spread over six years for the establishment of a forest industries training centre for SADCC countries, the Italian Embassy announced in Harare yesterday.

The money, which is part of a \$14 million Zimbabwe-Italy fund for the construction of the centre near the Zimbabwe College of Forestry in Mutare, will cover capital and operation costs for the first six years of the centre's operation.

The centre, which is to have production plants, workshops, lecture rooms, dormitories and other facilities, will provide for the training of technicians and trainers of skilled workers for primary mechanical forest industries from SADCC countries.

When completed, the centre will fill a long-felt need for the training of technicians in all stages of timber processing.

CSO: 3400/113

ZIMBABWE

NKALA SETS 25-YEAR POLICE SERVICE LIMIT

Harare THE HERALD in English 23 Sep 85 p 1

[Text] The police force is now retiring its members who have served for 25 years unless their services were required, the Minister of Home Affairs, Cde Nkala, has said.

He told The Herald in an interview that although some policemen had gone beyond their retirement age, it was because the Commissioner of Police felt that the individuals concerned were still needed by the police and thus their contracts were renewed yearly.

"But what I have noticed is that some of these renewals have gone beyond the usefulness of the individual concerned," Cde Nkala said.

He said there were some policemen who had been in the police force for 38 years and their usefulness had been restricted because of old age. They should retire and pave way for young people.

"We cannot make the police force an old people's home. It is a force where young men and women are more required than old people because of their duties," the minister said.

He said he had asked the Commissioner of Police to remind these concerned that they should retire or show cause why they should not. Those who would like to continue would have to prove that they were competent and loyal.

"We are not saying they should all retire, but show us why they should not do so," he said.

The administration would then check on the person's competence, position held and his loyalty. There had been problems in the past where loyalty was concerned and it was vital that they be loyal.

"If we find he does not meet any of these, then we will say here is your pension, thank you very much."

Cde Nkala said he had appealed to the young people in the police force not to resign. The projection of his ministry was to see these young people end up administering police affairs.

With regard to those who had done Form 6, and gone to university, he felt they had not been given status commensurate with their level of understanding. As a result, most of them had resigned or would do so when their contracts expired.

"That is dangerous because we have spent so much money and time recruiting and training them. Training them costs money and the food and uniform we give them is money."

He said senior police officers should facilitate their development and teach them what the police organisation was about.

"We want to persuade senior officers to help the young chaps in the preparation of police dockets, management of police affairs and other related issues.

"They should be taught to be prosecutors because they are better off, they have everything that make a better policeman or woman," Cde Nkala said.

CSO: 3400/135

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE PAYS TRIBUTE TO COMMUNAL FARMERS

Harare THE HERALD in English 28 Sep 85 p 1

[Text] The Prime Minister, Cde Mugabe, paid tribute yesterday to communal farmers for the role they have played in rural development over the past five years, having contributed 22 percent of cotton export earnings in this time.

An the percentage is rising. Cde Mugabe said that of 250 000 tonnes of seed cotton harvested in 1984, 81 000 tonnes (32 percent) came from the communal farming sector, and earned about \$44 million.

In addition, \$40 million worth of foreign currency was earned from gross export sales of cotton produced by communal farmers.

"This year communal farmers are expected to deliver 128 000 tonnes (40 percent) of the estimated national production of 320 000 tonnes of seed cotton, representing a 58 percent increase over the last year."

Experience had shown that over the past five years about \$102 million went to the communal farming sector from the production of 213 000 tonnes of seed cotton, out of the national total of 957 000 tonnes valued at \$440 million.

The cumulative gross export earnings over the same period amounted to \$439 million of which 22 percent was contributed by communal farmers.

Recovery

"It is therefore quite clear that the communal farmer, through the production of cotton, has made a contribution to gross domestic product, export earnings and the creation of additional employment in the textile industry."

"It also affects the supply of stockfeed and vegetable oil industries and, above all, the rapid economic recovery which the country is beginning to notice."

Cde Mugabe said the Zimbabwean farmer had earned himself an impressive reputation both locally and abroad as a highly dynamic and innovative producer, capable of responding efficiently to Government policies.

The Prime Minister later presented a prize to Cde Amos Mupfumira of Hurungwe who was declared the 1985 Communal Cotton Grower of the Year.

Runners-up were Cde Jairos Gwatalidzo of Kadoma, Cde Russo Chakanvuka of Gokwe and Cde C. M. Magurange of Gokwe.

The prizes were provided by Shell Chemicals.

CSO: 3400/116

ZIMBABWE

COMMUNAL FARMING DEVELOPMENT WIDENS

Harare THE HERALD in English 27 Sep 85 p 21

[Text] The Kohwa Pakuru programme which has been adopted by the Government as a strategy for communal farming development, is already being used in 25 districts.

The programme, started in 1981 with 74 participants, has reached 40 000 farmers. The estimated communal households exceed 700 000.

The Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Settlement, Cde Moven Mahachi, announced last week that plans for putting the Kohwa Pakuru programme on a national footing had reached "an advanced stage".

Ciba-Geigy launched it on the conviction that communal farmers could boost production, given the means.

It has since been demonstrated that in 1982-83 Kohwa Pakuru farmers reaped 5 450 kg of maize per ha on average compared with 2 000 kg for the run-of-the-mill, and the gap for cotton was 1 645 kg compared with 700 kg respectively.

This season the marginal farmers' maize pickings inched up to 2 700 kg per ha compared with 5 682 kg for the guided farmers, while the gap for cotton was 1100 kg and 2000 kg.

The champion maize grower under the programme this season, Cde Beata Chitemberere, of Mangwende, reaped 8 200 kg per ha compared with 3 000 kg for the ordinary farmer.

Of cotton, Cde Sillas Mambizo of Nemangwe in Gokwe yielded 11,5 bales per ha and topped most growers who scraped six bales.

The staggering yields were boosted by the package concept of the programme, which includes giving loans for buying inputs, training, timely distribution of inputs and co-ordinated marketing of produce.

Already in the exercise are Agritex, Ciba-Geigy, the Department of Co-operative Development and the Agricultural Finance Corporation.

Grassroots instructors are drawn from AFC, Agritex and DCD who, under Kohwa Pakuru, are taught practicals and theory. These agents then contact farmers for group sessions.

Both phases of training emphasize the importance of land preparation, early planting fertilisation, seeding, weed control, use of knapsacks and insect control.

Communal farmers have problems securing right inputs in correct amounts at the right time. Chemicals are often available in packs with quantities in excess of seasonal requirements.

Kohwa Pakuru packs for maize and cotton have enough herbicides, insecticides and measuring cups for a given area -- together with instructions and, in the case of maize, hybrid seed. Recommended knapsacks and fertilisers are also provided.

In this way the farmer is assured of timely availability of inputs and equipment at reasonable cost.

To offset snags, AFC provides loans to credit-worthy farmers in the programme while Agritex and DCD arrange for timely produce delivery to the Grain and Cotton Marketing Boards.

Under Ciba-Geigy the 1981-82 pilot scheme was 100 percent successful and the following season 34 extension workers who had been trained reached 3 700 farmers in Kandeya, Gokwe, Mangwende, Guruve and Mhondoro.

An additional 114 extension workers trained in 1983-84 reached 15 000 farmers in Chinamora, Chiweshe, Madziwa, Zvimba, Chiduku and Umfurudzi resettlement schemes.

CSO: 3400/116

ZIMBABWE

WIDE RANGE OF COMMODITIES EXPORTED TO BULGARIA

Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 20 Sep 85 p 9

[Text]

TOTAL trade between Zimbabwe and Bulgaria fell from \$11,2 million in 1983 to some \$6,3 million in 1984, according to the Ministry of Trade and Commerce.

Press reports last week, quoting Bulgaria's ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr Christo Kolev, stated that Zimbabwe's exports to that country had gone up by 15% during the second half of 1984, over the same period in 1983.

No specific figures were available at the time. However, figures since released by the ministry indicate that while Zimbabwe's exports to Bulgaria over the full 12 months of 1983 topped \$10,5 million, the corresponding figure for 1984 was only about \$1,4 million.

Zimbabwe's imports from Bulgaria in 1983 amounted to \$612 707 and in 1984, to some \$4,9 million. Total trade in 1983 was therefore \$11,2 million. In 1984 it was \$6,3 million.

Mr Kolev explained that the 1983 figure for Zimbabwean exports was artificially high, in that it includes a large, trilateral barter deal involving tobacco. The ministry's figures indicate that Zimbabwe exported flue-cured tobacco valued at \$10,4 million to Bulgaria that year.

Other exports were: Asbestos fibre (\$98 010), leather (\$77 381), iron, steel, pipes, tubes and fittings (\$613), and unclassified postal packages (\$1 000).

Said Mr Kolev: "That barter deal was not direct Zimbabwe/Bulgaria trade. When we talk about total trade, we talk about bilateral trade, not three-cornered deals like this".

This is evident in the figures for exports to Bulgaria in 1984, when Zimbabwe's sales of flue-cured tobacco to that country amounted to only \$455 027. Other exports in 1984 were: Raw coffee (\$669 552), other brands of manufactured tobacco (\$10 830), asbestos (\$124 524), leather (\$122 286) and something described as "settlers and emigrants" (\$1 000).

A LITTLE MACHINERY

Mr Kolev said that while Bulgaria imports mainly primary and semi-processed goods from Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe buys mainly grain, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, plastics and a little machinery from Bulgaria.

In 1983 the main item on Zimbabwe's import list was calculating machines (\$300 000). Others in-

cluded sodium compounds (\$224 965), sodium cyanide (\$53 348), chemicals (\$13 946), crude minerals (\$10 847), manufactured tobacco (\$11), and writing paper, electric cable, books, newspapers and printed music.

Zimbabwe's major import from Bulgaria in 1984 was wheat (\$4,3 million). Boiler tubes and spares (\$345 242), potassium cyanide (\$156 187), sodium xanthate (\$63 658) and sodium carbonate (\$22 885), were other large imports.

Small amounts of tetracycline, drilling machines, milling machines, and medical equipment make up the rest of Zimbabwe's import list for 1984.

CSO: 3400/116

ZIMBABWE

SWEDISH AID AIMS TO INCREASE LIVING STANDARDS OF POOREST

Harare THE HERALD in English 30 Sep 85 p 3

[Text] The primary objective of Swedish aid to Zimbabwe is to help the country raise the living standards of the poorest sections of the population, Mr Carl Tham, director general of Swedish International Development Authority said speaking of the Herald when he arrived in Harare yesterday.

"We support the Government's efforts to develop Zimbabwe on the lines of growth with equity with special reference to the rural areas and to the poor groups in those areas. Our programme of assistance is in line with the Government's policy of increasing the standard of life for the poorest groups in the country," Mr Tham said.

To achieve this objective, Mr Tham said, Swedish aid is focused on education, especially primary education, and on the health sector. Sweden has been involved in an extensive effort to build primary schools, refurbish existing ones, as well as supplying educational materials and equipment and training teachers.

In the health sector, aid has gone into building and equipping health stations and training the staff to run the new facilities.

Mr Tham is on a four-day visit to Zimbabwe for discussions with Government officials and to familiarise himself with some of the Sida projects in the country. He will also attend a meeting of Sida economists who work in different parts of Africa who are in Harare "to compare notes" on the countries problems.

Asked if aid to developing countries was an issue in the Swedish elections that were held two weeks ago, Mr Tham said the great majority of Swedish people support aid, especially aid for African countries.

An opinion poll conducted recently showed that about 80 percent of Swedish people are in favour of continued financial support to developing countries, he said.

"I think there is in Sweden, as in other Scandinavian countries, some feeling of an obligation to support developing countries as solidarity with nations which are less fortunate. We are indeed wealthy and we can consequently do this without any problem.

"This assistance programme has the support of a hugh majority of the population. We have regular opinion polls every year to see if there is any change in support for the assistance programme and a surprisingly firm majority of around 75 to 80 percent of the population is in favour of continued assistance to developing countries."

Mr Tham said he did not think there was any danger of Zimbabwe becoming dependent on aid and therefore becoming paralysed when foreign aid dried up. Aid becomes a trap only when it is badly co-ordinated, but in Zimbabwe the Government "has a firm control" of the aid coming in and how it is used, he said.

"Planned aid may be effective and in the interest of a developing country but of course it is just one part, and a modest part, of the factors which create development -- but it can help and it may be useful."

CSO: 3400/116

ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

NEW AZ BOEING JETS IN--Air Zimbabwe's first Boeing 737-200 advanced series jet flew to Harare from Copenhagen yesterday afternoon, escorted by a Viscount after link-up at Mazowe. Manned by an Air Zimbabwe crew, the two aircraft circled the city twice before landing at Harare Airport. The 737 touched down at about 3 pm and was handed over to Air Zimbabwe's general manager, Cde Augustine Mutyambizi, by the technical director, Cde Tafadzwa Mushambi. The plane, leased from an Irish aircraft broker, GPA, left Copenhagen on Tuesday and flew through England, Athens, Egypt and Nairobi. At the controls were captain John Heap and first officer Obert Mazinyi. Just before 2 pm a Viscount took off from Harare with a team of newsmen and photographers to meet the 737 at Mazowe. The two 737 crew had had two days familiarisation training in England before leaving at 8 am on Thursday. Boeing 737-200s have a flight deck crew of two. Four cabin attendants are recommended. The 115-seater plane will first be used on services between Harare and Bulawayo and the tourist route to Victoria Falls. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 28 Sep 85 p 1]

CSO: 3400/135

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